MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 NOVEMBER 1982

Lebanon

Al-Jumayyil Remarks, PLO Comment -- Before leaving Saudi Arabia and returning to Lebanon, President Amin al-Jumayyil expressed profound gratitude for the Saudi Kingdom's "special" care for Lebanon and asserted that Lebanon must be saved from "the game of balanced conflicts in the region" in order to rebuild itself, SPA reported. In a commentary on Al-Jumayyil's visit to Saudi Arabia, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said the PLO is uncertain whether any of the Saudi aid that will be offered to Al-Jumayyil's government to reconstruct Lebanon will be used to rebuild Palestinian camps shattered in the Israeli invasion. Contending that the Palestinian combatants in Lebanon are not "foreign forces" because they are neither occupation forces nor invaders but are in Lebanon to protect Palestinian civilians living there, the radio expressed apprehension that a Palestinian withdrawal from northern Lebanon and Al-Biqa' would jeopardize the security of Palestinian civilians living in those areas. The Palestinian military presence is an issue that can be solved between the Lebanese Government and the PLO immediately after an Israeli withdrawal, toward which all efforts should now be directed, the radio added.

Israeli Alternative to Security Agreement -- Senior Israeli defense officials cited by the Tel Aviv daily HA'ARETZ said that if the Lebanese Government continues to turn down the security and normalization arrangements proposed by Israel, the latter will have to withdraw unilaterally into its proposed security zone and extend the enclave ruled by Maj Sa'd Haddad's forces up to the Al-Awwali River, north of Sidon. However, the sources said there is no chance that this will occur because there is an optimistic atmosphere regarding the success of the talks with Lebanon.

Ash-Shuf Situation -- An IDF convoy moved inland from Ad-Damur into the Ash-Shuf hills, AFP reported citing eyewitnesses. Meanwhile, Lebanese radios continued to differ sharply in their interpretation of the Ash-Shuf violence. Following the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon's report that Druze gunmen killed two Christians in an ambush in Sirjbal, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio said the deaths occurred when local inhabitants confronted Phalangist attempts to establish a center in the village.

Israeli-Egyptian Relations

After the death of 'Aliza Begin, Egyptian leaders sent Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin "very warm" condolence messages which the Israelis regard as an important gesture indicating Egypt's desire to maintain normal relations with Israel, Jerusalem radio reported. According to another report by the radio, the United States has asked Egypt to return its ambassador to Israel before Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's impending visit to the United States and also to permit the resumption of the autonomy talks, thus creating a good atmosphere for the peace process.

Egypt

The judicial authorities have decided to release 162 persons detained on charges of belonging to extremist religious organizations, according to MENA reports on 14 and 15 November.

Iran-Iraq War

Military Situation -- The Iranians launched two new offensives, one late on 15 November in the Mandali region and the other early the next morning in the Maysan sector, according to an Iraqi military spokesman's statements broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio on 16 November. The spokesman claimed that Iraqi forces foiled both attacks, capturing Iranian personnel and equipment. The Iraqis also announced that their planes had launched new strikes at enemy targets inside Iran and denied Iranian claims to have shot down two Iraqi planes, according to INA reports.

Confirming the new offensives, IRNA said the Iranians killed or captured some 500 Iraqis and occupied strategic heights 13 km inside Iraq's Maysan area southwest of the Abu Gharib outpost.

Saddam Husayn Comments -- At a military awards ceremony in Baghdad, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn stressed the importance of training in preparing the Iraqi Army for a long war, INA revealed. The president added that a long war requires additional army formations, particularly since the war has become a defensive one for Iraq.

Iran

During operations on 14-15 November, government troops secured 97 km of the Sar Dasht-Piranshahr border road from the "counterrevolutionaries" in Kordestan and captured four command centers and one radio station belonging to the Kurdish Democratic Party, Tehran radio reported. Iran's prosecutor general told IRNA that terrorism has been virtually eliminated both in Tehran and in the provincial cities.

Moscow Talks

General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov met with DRA President Babrak Karmal in Moscow on 15 November, TASS reported. They discussed the international situation as well as bilateral relations and expressed "deep satisfaction" with existing relations, TASS added. Andropov also met with Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, Karachi radio reported. Citing a TASS report, the radio said the two leaders briefly discussed Afghanistan.

Gulf Affairs

Oman-PDRY Agreement -- The text of the Oman-PDRY agreement, broadcast by Salalah radio, states that the two countries agreed to establish normal relations based on mutual respect, to solve their differences by peaceful means, to find a durable solution to the border issue, to not allow any foreign forces to use their territories for aggression or provocation against the other country and to stop all media campaigns. They also agreed in principle to establish diplomatic relations. Both sides agreed to ratify the agreement on 15 November, the document said.

Olszowski Visits Kuwait -- In a news conference in Kuwait following his meeting with the Kuwaiti amir and other Kuwaiti officials, Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski praised Kuwait's domestic and foreign policies and said he was very impressed with the positive ideas expressed during the meetings. Olszowski affirmed Poland's support for Arab causes, particularly the Palestinian cause, KUNA added. Kuwait and Poland signed an educational cooperation agreement, another KUNA report noted.

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CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 221 *16 November 1982*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'Arafat Interviewed on Palestinian Issues [Monte Carlo] A 1
'Arafat, PDRY Chairman Meet in Moscow 15 Nov [Aden] A 10
Qaddumi Holds Talks in Moscow; Communique Issued [cross-reference] A 11
Al-Jumayyil Visit to Saudi Arabia Analyzed [Baghdad Voice of PLO] A 11
Joint Force Responsible for Tyre Explosion [Baghdad Voice of PLO] A 12

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC To Contact Superpowers To End Gulf War [AL-WATAN 13 Nov] C 1

KUWAIT

Polish Foreign Minister Pays Official Visit C 1
Report on Arrival C 1
Cooperation Agreement C 1
News Conference C 2
16 Nov Departure C 2

OMAN

Agreement With PDRY Government Released C 2
Briefs: Decree on PDRY Accord C 4

SAUDI ARABIA

Fahd, Crown Prince Meet Al-Jumayyil, Al-Wazzan C 4
Al-Jumayyil Departs C 4
Minister Interviewed on Saudi-Lebanese Talks [Beirut] C 5
Commentator Views Commitment to Lebanon C 7

PDRY

Law Ratifying Agreement With Oman Issued C 8
Yemeni Coordination Council Members Return C 8

EGYPT

Muhyi ad-Din Interviewed by AL-MUSTAQBAL D 1
AL-AKHBAR Commentary on Brezhnev's Death [14 Nov] D 4
Prosecution Releases Religious Fundamentalists D 5
Briefs: Mongolian Envoy Departs; Gabon Ambassador Leaves; Sudanese Minister Arrives D 5

IRAQ

President Says Army Must Prepare for 'Long War' E 1
Saddam Husayn Receives Army Personnel 15 Nov E 1
President Confirms Iranian Attacks Repelled E 1
Baghdad Demonstrations Support Saddam Husayn E 2
Ramadan Receives Message From Jordan's Badran E 2
Iran Launches Maysan, Mandali Offensives E 2
Communique No 901 E 2
Communique No 902 E 3
Downing of Planes Denied E 4
Communique No 903 E 4
Iranians Expelled From Positions E 5
Communique No 904 E 5
New Offensive 'Foiled' E 6
Attack on Maysan 'Crushed' E 6
Further on Maysan Attack E 6
Air Strikes in Iran Reported E 7
Spokesman Denies Downing E 7

SYRIA

Al-Asad Meets Leaders During Moscow Visit H 1
Romanian, Cuban Leaders H 1
PDRY Chairman H 1
Returns Home H 1
Khaddam, DFLP's Nayif Hawatimah Meet in Damascus H 1
[Monte Carlo]
Bulgarian Assembly Official Arrives in Damascus H 1
Monte Carlo Radio on 'Rumors' About Rif'at al-Asad H 2

ISRAEL

Prime Minister, Reagan To Meet in January I 1
[MA'ARIV 16 Nov]
Yosef Harif Details Lebanon Security Proposals I 1
Sharon, Haddad Discuss Security Arrangements I 3
Schiff Reports De Facto Division of Lebanon Plan I 4
[HA'ARETZ 15 Nov]
Commentator Calls for Recognizing Syrian Interests I 4
[HA'ARETZ 12 Nov]
Egyptian Statesmen Send 'Warm' Messages to Begin I 7
U.S. Reportedly Asks Egypt To Return Ambassador I 7
U.S. Witness Alleges Clusterbomb Use in Camps I 7
France Rejects Demand To Close PLO Office I 8
Better Relations With Moscow To Be Sought I 8
[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 16 Nov]
Patriarchs Threaten To Close Holy Sites [AFP] I 8
Peres Sees Vindication of Jordanian Option Policy I 9
[THE JERUSALEM POST 12 Nov]
Peres, Rabin, Eban on Lebanon, Territories I 10
Karmon Issues New Administration Directives I 11
[HA'ARETZ 16 Nov]
Village Leagues Hold Peace Rally in Hebron I 12
Talks Urged I 12
POST Reports Speeches [14 Nov] I 12
Consumer Price Index Rises 8.4 Percent in October I 14

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Non-African Envoys Excluded From OAU Session [AFP] P 1
Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses OAU Meeting in Tripoli [JANA] P 1
Further on Address [Tripoli] P 3
Al-'Ubaydi Addresses OAU Meeting; Gives Dinner [Tripoli] P 4

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Saudi King To Pay Official Visit 21 November Q 1
Iranian Envoy Meets With Foreign Minister [IRNA] Q 1
Departs for UAE [IRNA] Q 1
Botswana President Meets With Bendjedid 13 Nov Q 2
Concludes Visit Q 2

LIBYA

Jallud Meets Fidel Castro in Moscow 15 Nov Q 3
Al-Qadhdhafi Interviewed on Role in Mideast Q 3
[Kuwait AL-WATAN 9 Nov]
Emergency Aid Dispatched to Tunisia 5 Nov Q 6

MAURITANIA

Foreign Minister Leaves for Tripoli OAU Meeting Q 6

SUDAN

At-Tayyib, Egypt's Al-Baz Arrive in Khartoum Q 6
People's Assembly Endorses Integration Charter Q 7
Numayri Appoints Members to Nile Parliament Q 7
'Thousands' of Sudanese Volunteer To Go to Iraq Q 7
300 Selected Q 7

EAST AFRICA

SEYCHELLES

'Major Cabinet Reshuffle' by Rene Reported [TANJUG] R 1

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan on Clashes With Army in Hargeisa R 1

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Tripoli 'Expansionist Regime' Condemned [AFP] S 1

ZAIRE

Mobutu Sends Condolences to Israel's Begin S 1
Government Opponent Reportedly Kidnapped in Congo [AFP] S 1

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

PNDC Releases Military Intelligence Officials T 1

UPPER VOLTA

Ouedraogo Reportedly Confirmed CPSP President T 1
[L'OBSERVATEUR 15 Nov]
Curfew Hours Changed to 2100-0500 Daily T 1

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Independence Anniversary Speech U 1
Further on Release of Soviet, U.S. Prisoners [AFP] U 3
UNITA Admits Destroying Bridges on Giraul River [Lisbon] U 4
Defense Minister, Delegation Visit Cuba U 4
[cross-reference]
UNITA Kidnaps Brazilian Experts in Angola [AFP] U 5
Savimbi To Keep Fighting if Cubans Remain [AFP] U 5

LESOTHO

Liberation Army Claims Responsibility for Attacks [AFP] U 6

ZAMBIA

Briefs: Cholera Outbreak Reported U 6

'ARAFAT INTERVIEWED ON PALESTINIAN ISSUES

JN121946 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1735 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat -- identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar -- by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Tunis Nabil Darwish, carried in the "It Happened Tomorrow" program -- date not given - recorded]

[Text] [Question] The recent Israeli-Palestinian war in Lebanon has undoubtedly created several major changes in the political map of the Middle East. The changes were not confined to the political map; ideas have also changed or been transformed. The first party concerned with these changes or transformations is the Palestinian people. The questions which I will submit to you, brother Abu 'Ammar, will deal with the various aspects of this issue. These questions are: What will happen next? Where does the PLO stand? Did it leave the earth to sit on a flying carpet whose position can be defined only temporarily? Does it look for a landing place or is it situated between the Revolution and the state? Can the PLO pay the price of the state? What about the Palestinian national unity which the PLO fused in the cruscible of besieged Beirut? Has it been strengthened? Will the alliances which have been weakened or which may weaken and the friendships which emerged or were renewed have a negative effect on it? The occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, the settlements and the future are all questions that jump to the mind of those who listen to the Palestinian leader. However, first of all we will speak about the Arab situation. Before the Palestinian-Israeli war you used to repeat the phrase: The bad Arab times. How do you find the current Arab times?

[Answer] You have raised important questions.

[Question] We will talk about them in detail in this interview.

[Answer] Early this year I said that we were reaching a dark tunnel. I also said that I saw light at the end of the tunnel. I saw the minarets, the churches, mountains and vales of Jerusalem. What happened did not surprise me. I may have been surprised by some of the details. I said that the political map would change. I spoke about the [word indistinct] war. Many people wondered why I spoke about the [word indistinct] war. They had not imagined the state which we reached later. Now, when we reread these things we find that they are important and provide clear explanations of the recent developments. I spoke of the bad Arab times because when we came out of the first Fes summit I was very sad. All my brothers knew the extent of my sorrow when I came out of the first Fes summit. I said then that we, the Palestinian Revolution and people, would pay the price of this Arab disintegration. I told them during a meeting of the Palestinian leadership that we would pay the price of that Arab disintegration.

[Question] You regarded the failure of the first Fes summit as one of the causes of the Lebanese events?

[Answer] No. That was not one of the reasons [words indistinct] but helped in bringing us to the bad Arab times. It gave the enemy the opportunity to single out the Palestinian and Lebanese people, thinking thereby that it would be able to end the Palestinian Revolution and force the Lebanese and Palestinian people to their knees. Praise be to God, the Palestinian Revolution has not ended; the Palestinian and Lebanese people could not be forced to their knees. A mountain cannot be shaken by winds.

[Question] Our discussion of the Arab world must start with Lebanon. There are Palestinian and Syrian forces in Al-Biqa' and north Lebanon. Israel is present in south Lebanon and other areas. How do you view the future of the Palestinian military presence in Lebanon? When will you meet with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil? Did any high-level Lebanese-Palestinian meetings take place following the recent war?

[Answer] An important point must be cleared. There are Israeli and agent attempts to involve the Lebanese-Palestinian differences in the war which took place between us, Lebanese and Palestinians, and the Israeli enemy which receives unlimited U.S. support on the military, political and diplomatic levels and the support of the U.S. media. It used the most advanced U.S. weapons which had never been used before. Some of these weapons were just being tested on us, thus making us the testing field. Therefore, I say that we and the Lebanese brothers fought this glorious war. We stood facing this Zionist enemy in defense of the Arab nation's honor for 79 days in Beirut which was besieged from all sides. Battles continued in Lebanon for 88 days. These battles are continuing because there are consistent Israeli preparations and an Israeli military operation is expected in Al-Biqa' and the north.

I say this to indicate that under no circumstances will we allow anyone or any camp to tamper with or harm our relationship with our Lebanese brothers because this relationship has been baptized with pure blood. We and the Lebanese have been together in good and bad times. Hence, we told our Lebanese brothers of all ranks that we are ready to solve any problem between us on the presence of our military forces in Al-Biqa' and the north out of this fraternal spirit and partnership in the one trench and one destiny. I think that my brothers in Lebanon have begun to understand the words I used to say [words indistinct] have to pay the price. I have previously said that when this enemy finished with Palestine [words indistinct] the other aim is that we are looking for a major in the Lebanese Army [words indistinct] agent Sa'd Haddad or any other so that we can carry out our work. I say that we will not sow discord between us and our brothers. These are topics we can solve. There was an agreement in Fes to form a joint Lebanese-Palestinian committee. The Fes summit conference chairman, King Hassan II, expressed his readiness to offer all facilities so that this committee can meet to discuss all joint issues between us.

[Question] Some people have talked about a token Palestinian military presence in Lebanon.

[Answer] As I have told you, as long as there is a principled stand we are ready to discuss matters with our brothers in Lebanon. I have sent a clear message in this regard to President Amin al-Jumayyil and I received from him a positive reply similar to the positiveness expressed in my message.

[Question] When will you meet with him?

[Answer] This depends on his and not my circumstances. I am ready to meet with President Amin al-Jumayyil at the moment he deems suitable for such a meeting, regarding both time and venue.

[Question] Have high-level Palestinian-Lebanese meetings taken place in recent times or after the war?

[Answer] The Lebanese-Palestinian contacts have never ceased. You know that even when my Brother Shafiq al-Hut was attending a conference in Canada I asked him to return quickly. Therefore, contacts between us and our Lebanese brothers have never stopped and will not stop, God willing.

[Question] From Lebanon we now move to Syria. The Syrian and Palestinian desire to establish special and close relations has been available and publicized by you and the Syrian leadership. You announced the establishment of a strategic alliance. How can we account for the differences in viewpoints between the Palestinian and Syrian leaderships about which all are talking? Are they primarily political or ideological? Why is this relationship always suffering from extremely high or low temperatures?

[Answer] First of all I consider myself committed to all causes of my Arab nation. I am in a sacred and strategic alliance with every Arab citizen from the ocean to the Gulf. I said in the Gulf that the Palestinian Revolution is proud of the fact that it fought side by side with our allies in Lebanon in defense of the Arab nation's honor from the ocean to the Gulf. I said that this Palestinian fighter is ready to fight in defense of our Arab nation's honor at any time or place. We do not have a strategic alliance only with Syria. We have a strategic alliance with every child in our Arab nation. This is the sacred [words indistinct]. Thanks be to God, we are neither lost nor tired. We know our way. We have not received anyone. We have said the long popular liberation war. We have not said that we will have breakfast in one place and take lunch in Tel Aviv. We have not said that we will have breakfast in one place and take dinner in Haifa. We have not said this. We speak of the long popular liberation war. Thanks be to God, before this war I was in India and Pakistan. Those who refer to my speeches will find that I said: We may not be the strongest Arab army and best equipped, but we are the Arab military force which is ready to fight and be martyred for its aims as well as the aims of its people and Arab nation.

[Question] To what can the divergence in the viewpoints be attributed?

[Answer] You are talking about differences which do not exist as far as I am concerned. If a newsman or a news agency correspondent says something [about differences] you jump on it and talk about differences. I am not a carbon copy of anyone and, likewise, nobody is a carbon copy of me. Undoubtedly, everyone has his own independent judgment and this enjoys my respect. Similarly, they respect my own judgment. I am eager, proceeding from this theory, to preserve these relations between the Palestinian Revolution and Syria. I have always endeavored to maintain the relations between the Palestinian Revolution and all the Arab world.

[Question] You have often declared that there are special relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples. Also, after the Israeli-Palestinian war, you talked with King Husayn ...

['Arafat interrupts] You cannot say this. It is the Lebanese-Palestinian war against the Israeli invasion. I am the commander of the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces. Why do you say it is the Israeli-Palestinian war? You have no right to say so, Nabil. I am proud of this. This war is a Lebanese-Palestinian one against the Israeli invasion. You should not forget this because it continues as such.

Take, for example, the operation which was carried out today in Tyre and the daily operations by our Palestinian and Lebanese fighters. This is the Arab nation of which I am proud and with which I can defy the age. That is why I said during the battles: O glory, you should kneel down vis-a-vis these heroic feats discharged by our revolutionaries. We never said the Palestinian or Lebanese revolutionaries. They are revolutionaries in the Palestinian Revolution and the revolutionaries in the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces.

We are proud that there are heroes, honest fighters, strugglers and free people in the Palestinian Revolution belonging to the entire Arab nation. They come from Egypt, Syria, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Yemen [not further identified], Tunis, Sudan, Iraq, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Turkey and Africa. This is the Palestinian Revolution and these are the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces.

Israel has tried to say that all these fighters are terrorists. All of these fighters jointed the Palestinian Revolution after the decision made by the Islamic summit in At-Ta'if when it declared the jihad. It was pointed out that the Palestinian Revolution is entitled to call all strugglers to join it. These matters are crystal clear and [words indistinct].

[Question] You often declared that special and warm relations exist between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples. You recently talked with King Husayn and you are preparing to hold another round of talks soon concerning future relations. How do you envisage the future relations? Will they be a federation, as they say, or confederation?

[Answer] These relations are continuous. Actually I hope that some of my brothers will refresh their memories. I ask some of my brothers to go back to my statements following the Rabat summit in 1974. In the secret session at which the PLO was approved as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, I took part in the discussions -- it is a very important participation -- and I said: On behalf of the Palestinian people and the Palestinian revolutionaries, I am prepared to establish special and distinguished relations between the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples. I also said that I would be prepared in the future to have these relations between Palestine and Jordan. I also told all the Arab kings and presidents -- and this is recorded -- that I am prepared, should he [King Husayn] accept, to establish relations [words indistinct] which existed between Jordan and Iraq or as the relations which existed among Egypt, Syria and Libya or like the relations which existed between Syria and Lebanon following the French evacuation.

[Question] What about the relations which existed between Syria and Egypt -- the United Arab Republic?

[Answer] Let me tell you something. I said any form of confederation. I was clear. I told His Majesty King Husayn that I must return to my brothers in the Palestinian leadership and also I must return to my brothers in the Palestine National Council. I said: Let us hold a public referendum [words indistinct]. As you see, there is no problem. We are forging ahead and all Arabs should support this unity. Let us hope that it will be a comprehensive Arab unity.

[Question] During the siege of Beirut, Egypt played a big diplomatic role on the international level. During and after the siege, there were Palestinian-Egyptian contacts. What is the status of the Egyptian-Palestinian relations? Do you intend to visit Cairo?

[Answer] I hope that people will recall my statements about Egypt.

[Question] I remember that you once said that you had a weakness for Egypt.

[Answer] It is not weakness; it is a longing for Egypt. I fought two wars in defense of the Egyptian soil: during the tripartite aggression against Egypt in 1956 (?when we) were officers in the Egyptian Army, and during the warfare against the British presence in the Suez Canal in 1951 and 1952. I am proud of this and it is a bright spot in my life. I was educated in Egypt where I ate Egyptian food and drank Egyptian water. Can the Arab nation take Egypt out of its life and political and geographic existence?

Even in the Baghdad conference when As-Sadat went [to Jerusalem] we said that we were at the side of the Egyptian people. The Baghdad summit resolutions called for establishing the strongest possible relations with the Egyptian people. I tell you that we, the Palestinian Revolution and the PLO, have never severed these relations with the Egyptian people. I always said that the Egyptian people were, like the Nile, a genuine and ancient people. Differences might appear on the surface of the Nile but when the flood comes it sweeps everything away. I never lost my faith in the Egyptian people. I have always said this. We maintained our (?relations) with the Egyptian people. You recall that during the Fatah celebrations we used to invite the Egyptian nationalist leaders. Some people objected to this. Now they know that they were wrong. We invited the Egyptian nationalist forces' representatives to our Palestine National Council meeting in Damascus.

[Question] I believe that these forces issued an invitation to you to visit Egypt?

[Answer] Yes, more than one invitation.

[Question] Will you pay this visit?

[Answer] I will explain this because this is a very important point. During the siege I contacted all the Egyptian officials. I want to ask those who, I am sorry to say, are objecting to these contacts: Is it proper to contact them when I am in distress and not to contact them when the distress is over? Is this moral? No. We will contact them [words indistinct]. My aim is to go to Egypt and walk with it for the Arab nation's sake. I am against those who say that we should bring Egypt to us. No. All of us must go to Egypt and take it along in order to face the cultural and historical challenge imposed on us, to face the challenge to our existence and stand against this tyrannical Zionist evil, which receives unlimited support from U.S. imperialism.

[Question] The evacuation of the Palestinian Resistance from Lebanon has perhaps been a diplomatically beneficial card to the Palestinian Revolution. But it has weakened the military card which you need in any negotiations. How do you view the future of the Palestinian military action? Are there attempts to gather the Palestinian fighters and where? The Palestinian options, such as the peace option...

['Arafat interrupts] Why do you say this? Is Lebanon a card I use in my bargaining? This is...

[Question -- interrupts] Military weight at least.

[Answer] No. It is not a card for bargaining. Our presence in Lebanon was undoubtedly important in terms of manpower and in political and military terms. We fought an honorable battle on behalf of the Arab nation. We gave the Arab nation an asset, namely, that this enemy can be defeated. By God, I never knew how weak this enemy was before I saw it before me when I was under siege.

Begin once sent a foreign journalist to me. He told me that he had met with Begin, who had been very angry. Begin told him to tell me that he was the one who besieged Beirut and that I was not besieging Tel Aviv.

I told him: Tell Begin that it is I who am besieging Tel Aviv and the whole world from this besieged spot. It is a question of morale.

We proved to every Arab soldier and politician, to every Arab child that this enemy is not terrifying despite the devilish U.S. war machine. I tell you this while I am well aware of the value and importance of technological advance because I am an engineer. Yet, man makes miracles.

[Words indistinct] nothing is impossible for man. They made 17 attempts to occupy Beirut but they could not. Then, with Israeli-U.S. collusion, we were evacuated and the multinational force was also evacuated in order to grant them cheap victory over our dead bodies.

During the 3-month war, 72,000 of our people and of our Lebanese allies were either killed, injured or lost. In Sabra and Shatila we lost more than 5,000 martyrs. We are not afraid of them. They wanted to terrify us. They chose Sabra and Shatila because they were the headquarters of the Revolution. They cannot terrify us because we are the people of martyrs. I tell them: Let our martyrs and those of our allies be 72,000 plus 5,000, totalling 77,000 or even 177,000. In time we will settle our accounts. We did not invite our people to a wedding party; we invited them to a protracted people's war of liberation. This blood will continue to be shed until we liberate even Jerusalem, God willing.

[Question] Will the deployment of the Palestinian fighters in several Arab countries remain the same? Are there negotiations to assembly the Palestinian fighters in one of confrontation states, for instance?

[Answer] In the latest war we were already deployed in Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Syria and Lebanon. We are now deployed in nine countries. So what? Will the logistics increase a bit? I think that during the siege we proved that the logistics of our Revolution and our armed forces are highly organized administratively because we were not looking after only some fighters [words indistinct]. We were also looking after 800,000 besieged people who were with us. This is in fact a miracle admitted by Philip Habib and the Zionist enemy. Some administrative burdens have increased and we are capable of shouldering them.

On this occasion I reassure our people inside the occupied territory, in Lebanon and everywhere as well as our Arab nation that this expansion is not a point of weakness but of strength. We thank God that in all the places for which we left there is good, fraternal and sincere preparedness by all our brother leaders and officials to offer all help to our Palestinian forces. We know how to confront all problems. Our bones are hard, not soft.

[Question] All this happens at a time when the West Bank and Gaza are daily witnessing increased settlement. Many Palestinian dignitaries in the West Bank and Gaza expect that if the situation continues as it is for 10 years, the occupied Arab territories will automatically be annexed to Israel. Does this situation not warrant, as some for instance say, a certain Palestinian peace strategy?

[Answer] I do not want to yield to this guided ideological terrorism. It is true that I should take into account all aspects of this subject. We in the Palestinian leadership are dealing with this subject accurately, knowing that there is an attempt to swallow up [the occupied territories]. However, we are a hard nut to crack.

I will not forget that one day when I was under siege a Red Cross envoy came to tell me that he had huge quantities of donations consisting of tents, blankets, food and money from our people under occupation in Palestine. He added that he could not bring them to me [words indistinct]. I told him that regardless of the amount of these donations I consider them dearer to me that the world and what is in it. Our people under occupation sent this aid. How happy I was. Such people cannot be defeated. We proved that in practice. Inside our occupied territory the people became more cohesive. There was more cohesion between our people outside and inside the occupied territory; in the small Israeli prison and the large prison abroad as well. [passage indistinct]

[Question] Last week there were many news reports.

[Answer] Well, I have not finished my talk. I said that we are taking this subject into consideration. The subject is not only that of what I want; the subject is that we are facing a Zionist onslaught that has unlimited support. We must not imagine that a word spoken by Abu 'Ammar, the Executive Committee or National Council will solve everything. I talked with King Husayn and told him: You recognize Resolution 242 and Syria recognizes Resolutions 242 and 338. Why has Syria then not taken the Golan? I say this so that we may not be misled by words. This is a psychological and propaganda campaign [words indistinct]. I have a challenge. If the world wants a solution let it place the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which were occupied in 1967, under international sponsorship. This is the challenge facing those who want a solution. I proudly say that the Palestinian delegation played a basic role in this unified Arab stand as demonstrated in the second Fes summit conference after the Arab disintegration in the first Fes summit. We came out unified for the first time after this fragmentation and charted an Arab plan to be submitted to the world. The seven-member committee visited Washington, listened to President Reagan and submitted its plan to him. Other delegations will visit Britain, France, the USSR and PRC. We will meet afterward and decide.

[Question] But President Reagan insists on the PLO's recognition of Resolutions 242 and 338.

[Answer] Before he insists on this, let President Reagan first obtain Israel's recognition of his own plan. Let his stop the arrogant Israeli defiance against him. [passage indistinct]

[Question] But there are reports saying that you are prepared to recognize these two UN Security Council resolutions in a specific manner. Also, there are other reports saying that you are prepared to recognize Israel if the recognition is simultaneous and synchronized. How true is this?

[Answer] Let me say one thing: [words indistinct]. The problem is: Is there an international desire to reach a just and comprehensive solution in the Middle East region that would take into consideration the interests, rights and aspirations of our Palestinian people as well as our legitimate rights, including our right to return, to determine our future and set up our independent state? I am not asking for the impossible. I say international legality. Who is against international legality?

[Question] But if the world accepts such principles, will you agree to recognize Israel?

[Answer] Let the world accept. Let the world give me something to propose to the Palestinian people. We have democracy in the Palestinian Revolution, and I am very proud of it. I was not elected by 99.99 percent of the vote [alluding to the figure used during former Egyptian President as-Sadat's elections] Nor did I come to power by means of a coup d'etat. I was elected through legitimate elections. I will execute whatever the Palestinian people may decide, such as political programs. I am supposed to convey to my people whatever is proposed to me. This is our strength in the Palestinian Revolution.

We said that representatives of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories will be attending the popular conference. But the Israeli military administration said that any Palestinian who takes part in this conference will be punished. Let me ask the world what it [words indistinct].

[Question] You recently told an Italian paper that you are prepared to conduct a dialogue or to talk with any force opposing Begin or his policy. Does this apply to the Labor Party or some personalities [word indistinct]?

[Answer] I said something very important. During my recent visit to Kuwait and in front of the Palestinian and Arab masses I addressed greetings and admiration on behalf of these masses to all those militarists or civilians who demonstrated in Israel against the war and the massacre. I said that I am prepared to extend my hands to them in order to greet them for this principled and ethical stand, and I am also prepared to conduct a dialogue based on our decisions in the Palestine National Council.

[Question] Do you mean here the (?Labor) Party officials?

[Answer] I said that any force supporting the Palestinian people's rights, including their right to self-determination and the right to set up their state [words indistinct]. The recent Labor Party's program is very important. Peres was elected at the end of this program. Articles 17 and 18 and I think article 21 or 35 [words indistinct]. They justify an operation outside the borders; they gave the green light to Begin in the political program. I have a good memory. Others may forget, but I, never.

[Question] The Palestinian national unity was completely manifested during the Beirut siege. What is the current status of this unity?

[Answer] Stronger than any time before. I am very pleased with it despite the attempts by some Arab and non-Arab countries. I want to tell them that this unity is strong because it is established on a heritage of struggle, on the ceaseless flow of blood, on this people, the people of martyrs, on the Arab nation which is protecting this people and on this democracy. I am not eternal. The people will elect somebody else. [passage indistinct] I am now in the forefront, but I might go to the second or tenth rank of the people say so. This is democracy and this is our strength. Some might wonder why some of us express our opinions. Let them wonder. I am not driving a flock of sheep or slaves. I am leading free revolutionaries, the youngest one among whom has the right to criticize Abu 'Ammar and the Palestinian leadership. This is his strength because he is fighting and may get killed for the sake of defending its decisions. Slaves do not fight; you must understand this, Nabil. Slaves do not fight. That is why they fought for 3 months without war machines, aircraft or missiles. They stood fast armed with faith and high spirit because they are free.

[Question] After a period of lukewarm relations in the wake of President Francois Mitterrand's visit to Israel, relations between the PLO and France returned to normal and were consolidated during the war. These relations were intensified during the war -- if I am allowed to use this expression. What is the status of the French-Palestinian relations?

[Answer] I have said that during the Lebanese-Palestinian war against this Israeli invasion the French discovered that it was not a Peace for Galilee Operation as the Israelis claimed, but an operation against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. It was an annihilation war and massacres. The massacre in Sabra and Shatila was not against the Palestinians only, but also against the Lebanese. They have discovered these matters. They discovered this barbarism. I said that President Mitterrand's stand was ethical and that he is a man of principles. Therefore, in every battle a special relationship was bolstered between me and him. I am glad for that.

[Question] This is about France. What about the United States? Is there a possibility of establishing a realistic relationship with it, in your opinion?

[Answer] Of course. I am a man working in politics and in a Revolution. I deal with politics with cold nerves as I do with war. I deal with politics as well with very cold nerves.

I know that the United States is one of the two superpowers. I cannot exclude it from the political, economic or military map. Therefore, I am eager to establish relations with it. At present it refuses to do so. You know that a few years ago I sent two of my brothers to America [words indistinct] to open an office [words indistinct]. I would like to remind Kissinger and those who revolve around the pledge he made. Why did Kissinger contact us during the evacuation of the Americans from Beirut in 1976? Many messages were exchanged with him at that time. He sent us a message of thanks and this message is at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. I ask my Egyptian brothers to publish the message of thanks now so that they can acquaint people with Kissinger, who has several faces.

[Question] But it is said that Shultz is quite different from Kissinger. Do you think so?

[Answer] I do not build palaces on sand. I am a practical man. I want to see what is put into practice.

[Question] From what has been said to the Arab friends of the United States, is there even a meager development of the U.S. stand?

[Answer] The U.S. people's logic is definitely developing. I am following up this development in the U.S. people's consciences and hearts. The U.S. people began to realize the depth of the tragedy involved in the U.S. administration's policy against the simplest human rights and principles as expressed in the right to self-determination, which is the right of every people in the world. I wonder how the U.S. administration can call for self-determination for 1,800 people in the Falkland Islands and in the same year and on almost the same date say no to self-determination for the Palestinian people? I cannot understand this. By God I cannot understand [words indistinct] world policy. If it is a matter of proving one's existence and that of breaking heads, I tell them that there will be no stability, no security, no peace and no solutions in the Middle East region if the Palestinian people's national and inalienable rights, including those of our right to repatriation, self-determination and establishment of our independent state with Jerusalem, its capital, are ignored. This is clear and firm and they must understand it.

[Question] During the siege of Beirut some Palestinian officials' statements were characterized by bitterness toward Moscow. You have exchanged several messages with the Soviet leaders. How can we assess the Soviet-Palestinian relations?

[Answer] I was surprised at this behavior by my brothers. I was against this behaviour because it was irresponsible. Our Soviet friends -- and let me be accurate in this regard -- acted within the red line in Yalta zones of influence more than we had expected. [sentence as heard] I am a man who faces matters and facts as they are and I thank them for all that they offered.

[Question] You then accept to move within Yalta lines [words indistinct]?

[Answer] I do not accept Yalta. Who told you this? I do not accept Sykes Picot, Yalta or anything else. I understand equations.

[Question] Let me finish this interview with some personal questions. Enemies, adversaries and friends are always talking about your outstanding ability to maneuver. Palestinian poet Mahmud Darwish recently said that Abu 'Ammar can hold the angel with the right hand and the devil with the left hand in order to draft one sentence.

[Answer] Actually, he was unjust to me. I never hold devils. I am a faithful man and may God bless him as a poet. But I never held the devil. I know to whom I talk [words indistinct]. I can defy with the children of the occupied territories. Therefore, he who is confident of his pace can walk like an angel. Those who are making the new dawn of the Arab nation are [words indistinct] including poets and men of letters. Regrettably, a lot of Arab papers attack the Arab nation. I ask them what is wrong with the Arab nation? The Arab nation is the sword. Who thought that Beirut would fight so splendidly? The Arab nation needs a political decision. It was the political decision that made the epic and the glory.

[Question] When the Israeli aircraft were hunting you in Beirut, which moment was the most dangerous and what were you thinking about at that moment?

[Answer] Believe me, and I am not claiming to be brave, I was completely occupied thinking of the children in Beirut who were horrified and terrified. I swear by God, and God is my witness, had it not been for the Beirut children and women, I would have never left. No force on earth, and Sharon and Philip Habib know this, would have driven me out of Beirut. [passage indistinct]

[Question] Have you felt sorry for the departure after the Sabra and Shatila [massacre]?

[Answer] Yes. But what happened in Sabra and Shatila is the military honor of the U.S. Army and [word indistinct]. I have many pieces of evidence and documents. This is left to the U.S. public opinion.

[Question] Do you have written guarantees from Philip Habib?

[Answer] (?Yes) and these are signed by the Americans, French, Italians and the United Nations. I discussed this with Mr Colombo and also (?Mr Cheysson).

[Darwish] Thank you Abu 'Ammar.

'ARAFAT, PDRY CHAIRMAN MEET IN MOSCOW 15 NOV

GF151636 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad received Brother Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution forces, and the accompanying delegation this morning at his residence in Moscow. 'Arafat is currently visiting Moscow to participate in the funeral of late Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev.

During the meeting the two leaders discussed the developments in the Arab arena and the means to bolster the unity and solidarity of the Arab national liberation movement in order to confront the challenges that threaten our Arab peoples as a result of the escalation of conspiratory plots and the expansionist and aggressive policy of the imperialist-Zionist alliance forces.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad reaffirmed the primary and solid stance of the PDRY's party, people and government in support of the Arab Palestinian people's struggle under the leadership of the PLO in order to regain their legitimate rights and establish their independent national state.

The meeting was attended by Brother 'Ali ash-Shayi' Fadi, Political Bureau candidate member and head of the supreme party surveillance committee; 'Ali 'Abd ar-Razzaq Ba Dhib, YSP Central Committee member, deputy prime minister and chairman of the state press committee; 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, YSP Central Committee member and foreign minister; and Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husayn, YSP Central Committee member and PDRY ambassador to the Soviet Union.

The meeting was attended from the PLO side by Brother Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO political Department; Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, head of the information and Culture Department in the PLO; Abu Mazin ['Abbas Mahmud], PLO Executive Committee member; and Muhammad ash-Sha'ir; PLO ambassador in Moscow.

QADDUMI HOLDS TALKS IN MOSCOW; COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

For reportage on the visit by the chief of the PLO Political Department, Faruq Qaddumi, to Moscow, beginning 10 November, including reports on talks he held with Foreign Minister Gromyko and on a joint communique, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 12 November Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

AL-JUMAYYIL VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA ANALYZED

JN151910 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 15 Nov 82

[News analysis]

[Text] Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's talks with King Fahd focus on the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon, the Palestinian civilian and military presence in Lebanon as well as the Syrian forces' presence in Lebanon. This is in addition to the discussion of Lebanon's need for aid to reconstruct what was destroyed during the Zionist war against Lebanon.

Before analyzing the Lebanese president's visit, we wish to say that we are not sure if the aid that will be offered to Amin al-Jumayyil's government to reconstruct and rebuild Lebanon will also include the reconstruction of the Palestinian camps destroyed and burned by the Zionist forces. What is important now is that no one in the Palestinian Revolution or the Arab nation wishes to see Lebanon torn apart or separated from its Arab enviroment. This has been confirmed by President Amin al-Jumayyil himself. Furthermore, no one in the Arab region doubts that the first important step for the reconstruction of Lebanon is the withdrawal of the invading Zionist forces and, then, the further strengthening of Lebanon's unity, security and Arabism. This should be followed by intensive efforts to rebuild what was destroyed by the Nazi Zionists.

One can judge if the Lebanese president's visit to Saudi Arabis is successful and encouraging if his talks with King Fahd concentrate on the withdrawal of the Zionist enemy's forces from Lebanon. We say this because one shouldn't forget that Lebanon has experienced in the past and may experience again the Zionist convetous designs and Zionist invasion. We recall here a statement by the enemy war minister, Sharon, who said that the Israeli enemy's army will stay in Lebanon for a long time. The Lebanese president and the Saudi king do realize the dangers of the continued Israeli army's presence in Lebanon, the dangers which jeopardize not only Lebanon but the Palestinian cause and the entire Arab nation as well.

The Palestinian cause, which in reality means the issue of the Palestinian people and land, is not separated from the Palestinians and the other Arab peoples, particularly the Lebanese people and land. Therefore, we in the Palestinian Revolution say that the Plaestinian presence in Lebanon should not be classified as a presence of foreign forces.

In the first place the term foreign forces means the presence of the Zionist forces. This classification cannot be applied to the Palestinian military presence because the Palestinian forces in Lebanon are neither occupation forces nor invaders and, furthermore, the presence of these forces is linked to the presence of the Palestinian people in Lebanon which has been dictated by a force majeur imposed on the Palestinian people in 1948. These Palestinian military forces are fighting with factions of the Lebanese nationalist forces against the Zionist occupation.

The presence of the Palestinian military forces in Lebanon in this stage of the Zionist invasion of Lebanon has never been as important as it is now for many reasons: First, the fact that the Lebanese Army was unable to protect the Palestinian civilians after the evacuation of the Palestinian fighters from Beirut. Second, the failure of the U.S. gurantees to protect the Palestinian civilians through the multinational forces; the Sabra and Shatila massacres are the best example of this. Third, the Lebanese Army cannot stop the elements of traitor Sa'd Haddad from carrying out their crimes against the Palestinian civilians in the south.

What would become of the Palestinian civilians in the camps of Al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon if the Palestinian forces withdraw? Our experiences in Beirut and the rest of the camps in southern Lebanon are still vivid.

We have always said that the Zionist occupation is behind Lebanon's ordeals. Hence, the first practical step to solve all the problems would be to concentrate on the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon. The Palestinian military presence is an issue that can be solved between the Lebanese authority and the PLO immediately after the Zionist withdrawal. We here remind you that the PLO decided that no military action would take place from Lebanon. However, the continuation of the Zionist occupation and the Zionist practices against our civilian kinfolk in southern Lebanon, and even in Beirut, lay great critical responsibilities on our shoulders, all of us Palestinians, Lebanese and Arabs. We are responsible for bringing and end to the occupation, resisting it and securing the safety of our unarmed masses.

JOINT FORCES RESPONSIBLE FOR TYRE EXPLOSION

JN151712 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1610 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] A responsible source at the PLO has made the following statement: Commenting on reports disseminated by news agencies on statements attributed to a PFLP spokesman about the blowing up of the Zionist military governor's headquarters in Tyre, we would like to state the following:

The heroic operation in Tyre which led to the blowing up of the Zionist governor's headquarters was carried out by the Lebanese and Palestinian heroes from the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces. No faction is entitled to attribute the operation to itself. The PFLP knows this well.

On this occasion, the joint forces will continue their valiant and heroic operations against the Zionist occupation forces in Lebanon and occupied Palestine alike.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC TO CONTACT SUPERPOWERS TO END GULF WAR

GF131128 Doha QNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Kuwait, 13 Nov (QNA) -- The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN today quoted a report from Manama saying that during the GCC summit conference which concluded in Bahrain on Thursday, it was decided to make a major Gulf move directly with the superpowers in order to end the Iraq-Iran war.

The paper, which quotes conference sources, added that high-ranking delegations will begin visits to Washington, Moscow and the other superpowers soon to work toward ending this war. Kuwait and Saudi Arabia have been assigned the task of making this initiative.

KUWAIT

POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT

Report on Arrival

LD141916 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] The Polish foreign minister, Stefan Olszowski, arrived in Kuwait this morning on a 2-day official visit.

He was met at the airport by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs and minister of information; and by Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rashid, under secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

KUNA reports that during his visit Mr Olszowski will hold talks with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad on bilateral relations, developments in the Middle East crisis and other international issues of mutual interest.

Cooperation Agreement

LD151936 Kuwait KUNA in English 1754 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 15 (KUNA) -- An educational cooperation agreement was signed here Monday between Kuwait and Poland, an official announcement said.

The agreement was signed for the Kuwaiti side by Minister of Commerce and Industry, acting Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and Chairman of the National Council for Education, Arts and Letters Jasim al-Marzuq and for Poland by visiting Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski.

The signing ceremony was attended by Poland's non-resident ambassador and Secretary General of the National Council for Education, Arts and Letters Ahmad al-Adwani and the council's Deputy Secretary-General Dr Khalifah al-Wagayan.

The agreement stipulated for cooperation in fields of culture arts, higher education in addition to sports and health protection. [sentence as received]

It also called for promoting contacts between government institutes in both countries and the exchange of visits of writers and artists.

News Conference

LD151924 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski has praised the policy pursued by Kuwait in the internal and international fields. He said the amir and the Kuwaiti Government are doing their utmost to achieve the welfare and well-being of the Kuwaiti people. They are working to develop Kuwait in a manner characterized by wisdom, far-sightedness and realism.

Olszowski told a news conference in the Meridian Hotel this afternoon that he was greatly impressed by the positive ideas he heard during his meeting with his highness the amir of the country and the sentiments his highness expressed toward Poland. He said he has extended an invitation to his highness on behalf of the Polish president to visit Poland.

The Polish foreign minister said he had the honor of meeting His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah and held talks with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, foreign minister and minister of information. The talks centered on the exchange of views regarding bilateral issues and important international issues. He said he affirmed to Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad Poland's support for Arab causes, particularly the cause of the Palestinian people and their right to establish an independent and sovereign state. He also expressed concern over the present international situation, including the continuing Iraq-Iran war.

Speaking about the situation in Poland, Olszowski said many internal crises are being used as an excuse by other countries to create international tensions. Olszowski predicted the end of martial law in Poland, saying this law will not last for longer than a year.

16 Nov Departure

LD160928 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0717 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Nov (KUNA) -- Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski left Kuwait this morning at the end of a 2-day official visit during which he met with the amir of Kuwait and with Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, prime minister and heir apparent.

He also had talks with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, foreign minister and minister of information, on bilateral relations and international issues of common interest, and signed an agreement on technical and cultural cooperation between the two countries.

He was seen off at the airport by 'Isa Muhammad al-Masidi, minister of communications, and ('Abd al-Karim Bu Ghayth), chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry.

OMAN

AGREEMENT WITH PDRY GOVERNMENT RELEASED

GF151108 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 15 Nov 82

["Text" of the Omani-PDRY agreement of principles reached in October during a meeting held in Kuwait, as published in 15 November Omani paper 'UMAN]

[Text] Out of fraternal feeling and sincere willingness to develop normal relations between the PDRY and the Sultanate of Oman, an expanded meeting of experts and ministers of foreign affairs was held between 23 and 27 October 1982.

Participating in this meeting were a delegation from the PDRY led by Foreign Affairs Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali and the delegation of the Sultanate of Oman led by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah. Also participating were the UAE delegation which was led by 'Abd ar-Rahman aj-Jarwan, under secretary of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, and Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs and information, who led the Kuwaiti delegation. [This meeting was held] in light of the meeting between the PDRY nad Omani delegations held in the presence of a delegation representing the State of Kuwait between 3 and 7 July 1982. Many meetings were held to review the agenda, which included the following items:

1. Agreeing to abstain from interfering in internal affairs in addition to [ensuring] mutual respect for national sovereignty and the border issue.

2. The presence of foreign bases.

3. Media campaigns.

4. Exchanging diplomatic representations.

In an absolutely frank and responsible atmosphere the conferees discussed all the items on the agenda bearing in mind the urgent need to establish neighborly and cooperative relations between the two neighbors. Out of this, the following agreement was reached:

1. The two countries are committed to establishing normal relations based on mutual respect, noninterference in domestic affairs, in addition to respect for the national sovereignty of both countries, neighborly relations and cooperation in the interests of the two peoples. Moreover, the two sides agreed to resolve their differences through peaceful means and not allow any hostile act -- that could cause stability and security to deteriorate -- to emanate from the territory of either side.

As the two countries stress that none has any ambitions in any other territory, the two sides agreed to form a technical committee with the participation of Kuwait and the UAE so that this committee can review all pertinent documents in order to reach a durable solution to the border issue between the two neighboring countries in accordance to the borders of the two countries [which prevailed] on 30, November 1967.

2. As for the presence of foreign bases, the two sides agreed not to allow any foreign forces to use their territories for aggression or provocation against the other country.

3. As for media campaigns, the two sides agreed to stop all media campaigns from radio, television and press and all official forms of propaganda and publication against the other.

4. Exchange of diplomatic representations. The two sides stressed the need to improve bilateral relations and open new [word indistinct] for cooperation. Therefore, an agreement was reached on the principle of political recognition and the principle of establishing diplomatic relations in order to develop the relations so that the establishment of relations can be announced after bilateral contacts.

In accordance with this, the two sides agreed to sign this agreement and emphasized that they will be fully committed to the mentioned principles when the two countries ratify them on 15 November 1982, with the aim of turning over a new leaf in the relations between the two countries.

[Signed] 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, head of the PDRY delegation and minister of state for foreign affairs; Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, head of the Omani delegation and minister of state of foreign affairs; Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, head of the Kuwaiti delegation, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs and information; 'Abd ar-Rahmad al-Jarwan, head of the UAE delegation and under secretary for the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Kuwait, 27 October 1982

BRIEFS

DECREE ON PDRY ACCORD -- His Majesty Sultan Qabus has issued a decree on the implementation of the principles which were agreed upon and signed by the Sultanate of Oman and the PDRY in Kuwait on 27 October. This decree will be effective as of 13 November 1982. [Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 Nov 82 GF]

SAUDI ARABIA

FAHD, CROWN PRINCE MEET AL-JUMAYYIL, AL-WAZZAN

LD150956 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0855 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Riyadh 15 Nov (SPA) -- His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Excellency Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil held a meeting at 1115 today at Al-Dhiyafah Palace in Nasiriyah. During the meeting, the Lebanese situation, in addition to a number of issues relating to the Middle East, were discussed.

His Royal Highness Prince Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, held a meeting at 1115 today at Al-Dhiyafah Palace in Nasiriyah with Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, who is currently visiting the kingdom with the delegation accompanying Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil.

The meeting reviewed a number of questions relation to the situation in the Middle East and the Lebanese situation and the phases through which it is passing.

Al-Jumayyil Departs

LD151442 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1315 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 15 Nov (KUNA) -- His Excellency al-Jumayyil, the Lebanese president, left Riyadh at [word indistinct] this afternoon following a 2-day visit to the kingdom.

His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz led those who saw him off at the airport. Also bidding his excellency farewell were His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, heir apparent, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, amir of Riyadh region; his excellency Dr Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, minister of education; and 'Abdallah an-Na'im, mayor of Riyadh.

In a press statement made before his departure, Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil expressed his gratitude to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, his wise government and the Saudi people for the care accorded to Lebanon by the kingdom.

He described this care as special, whereby the kingdom has always taken Lebanon by the hand, supporting its cause and contributing to easing the suffering of Lebanon and the Lebanese.

The Lebanese president said that Lebanon enjoys the purest of relations and the strongest of ties with the kingdom and the royal family headed by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Among the signs of this was the Lebanese presence in the kingdom, which contributed to the starting of construction and development.

President al-Jumayyil stressed that the Lebanese presence in this east and this world was a constructive presence. [sentence as received] The whole world should reciprocate loyalty to the Lebanese, because Lebanon has not been and will not be a pitch for terrorism. It is a fortress for the firm establishment of security, justice and democracy.

He said we have come to stress, as we have stressed in New York, Washington, Paris, Rome, the Vatican and Rabat, that Lebanon is set on salvation and on the return to practicing the [words indistinct] role.

He added that it is his people's right to enjoy loyalty and prosperity and to return to active life in this region -- stressing that the salvation of Lebanon has become an Arab need.

He said: We will spare no effort nor let an opportunity pass without working to remove Lebanon from the game of balanced conflicts in the region, so that Lebanon may start rebuilding its entity. The Lebanese president said that from this starting point Lebanon is concerned to crystalize the true and historical relations with the kingdom in steps that would be established by the nature of the current phase to remedy the existing challenges. It is also concerned about its freedom and national sovereignty and about pushing forward the construction and development move at all levels.

At the end of his statement he said: We have received full understanding and support for Lebanon and the Lebanese from the kingdom, headed by his majesty the king.

MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON SAUDI-LEBANESE TALKS

NC151115 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Interview granted by Information Minister Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani to Ma'ruf ad-Da'uq, member of the Lebanese information team in Riyadh -- date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Lebanon's relationship with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is a special one, as characterized by the political and financial support which the kingdom extends to Lebanon and the role it has carried out regarding recent events. How do you evaluate the moves which His Excellency President Amin al-Jumayyil is carrying out in the kingdom with His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz?

[Answer] There is a special relationship, as you have mentioned, not only because of the political and financial support but also because of the strong ties linking the two fraternal peoples. You know that we have strong ties of Arabism, blood and fraternity.

We all are playing a major role in this area. Naturally, His Majesty King Fahd is, at the head of this kingdom, leading a basic movement to stand alongside Lebanon in order that it may regain its health and its role in the joint Arab action.

We have all been pained by what has been happening in fraternal Lebanon. We all spent long nights with you imploring God to help you emerge from the ordeal which has befallen fraternal Lebanon. Regardless of how hard I try, I will not be able to fully express the feelings of your brothers and friends here in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They, government and people, have lived the events moment by moment. You and your colleagues have seen how his excellency the president was welcomed on his arrival by this people, who thank God that Lebanon now has a legitimate president and legitimate government. This makes me feel optimistic about a bright future for fraternal Lebanon.

The discussions, as will be published, God Almighty willing, were characterized by a high spirit of understanding, awareness and the realization of the dimensions and seriousness of the stage through which the area is passing and of the political, financial and various types of support which the Arab brothers and even the entire world must extend to Lebanon. The world bears the responsibility for what has happened in fraternal Lebanon. The Lebanese have endured and did all they could. It is time that we all should contribute to their aid and help them to achieve more security, stability and prosperity in order that Lebanon may, God willing, regain its health, security and stability, as I have told you, and in order that it may march again noble and stable along the path it previously followed so as to participate effectively in the stability of the region.

Personally, I am very optimistic about the results of today's meetings, particularly because of the positive, realistic and effective spirit which permeates them and because of the heedful realization of the dimensions of the question as a whole, which His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has shown during the discussions, and also because of the clear views on what we must do for fraternal Lebanon. His excellency the president will inform you about the details of this issue. Official political statements will be issued in this regard. As a whole, however, the atmosphere is encouraging. It is an atmosphere characterized by positiveness, effectiveness, understanding and agreement on the dimensions and importance of what we are passing through and what we must do for fraternal Lebanon. I reassure the brothers there that we are with them with our hearts in the battle of rebuilding, in the same way we were with them during the gloomy and dark moments. God be praised, the threads of dawn have started to shine again and light will shine brightly everywhere in fraternal Lebanon and amity, stability and security will be restored in it, God willing.

[Question] Your Excellency, here is a question on information: Do you plan an information visit to Lebanon or will there be close cooperation through the dispatch of a mission to Lebanon?

[Answer] Cooperation is continuing in all fields, as you know. I do not believe there is a need to fix dates for visits. We all visit Lebanon at different times. Delegations come and go. There is joint cooperation between us in the field of information. Everybody knows this, but we are in the process of coordinating the information process.

We are preparing a new plan based on strengthening the information efforts in Lebanon and on helping it in the campaign of enlightenment.

We have also a plan for joint production between us and our friends to restore the kind of fruitful cooperation which existed in the past. We have also plans to produce some documentary films in which we will participate in explaining to our citizens and to the world what has happened and is happening in Lebanon and in the future of fraternal Lebanon.

We feel that it is our duty to support you in everything. You must guide us in the way you want our contribution in the field of information. We will be with you under all circumstances. We stood with you with our hearts. This alone shows you the feeling we harbor for you and this noble Arab people.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS COMMITMENT TO LEBANON

LD141848 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Nov 82

[News analysis by Jasir 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jazir]

[Text] His Excellency Amin al-Jumayyil's visit, which began today, and the talks he is to hold with His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz have aroused the interest of all Lebanese, Arab and international political circles following this visit and anticipating that the outcome of the talks will have positive repercussions on the situation in Lebanon, in particular, and on the Arab situation, in general.

In view of the fact that President al-Jumayyil's visit is being made while Lebanon is experiencing special trials, following long years of civil war and with more than two-thirds of Lebanese territory under the hateful Zionist occupation, it is of double importance. This is because of the kingdom's distinguished and purposeful role in seeking the liberation of Lebanese territory from Zionist occupation and of its firm efforts to see Lebanon rebuilt and returned to normal life.

The Saudi role in no longer covert, especially in maintaining international contacts. The Saudi Kingdom has been making and is continuing to make major international efforts using all its political and economic assets and distinguished international position to secure a comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from all Lebanese territory.

There is no doubt that the kingdom's international capabilities will enable it to carry out this role gladly and by its pan-Arab responsibility dictated by many considerations.

The Saudi commitment comes as a continuation and completion of all previous efforts and work. Since the kingdom's participation with its Arab sisters in the Arab Deterrent Forces, its responsibilities and the scope of its contribution to achieving a solution to the Lebanese problem have increased. It is a prominent member of the Arab Followup Committee which was set up by the Arab League to solve the Lebanese problem politically. It is also a prominent and influential member of the six-sided Arab committee, the meetings of which were hosted by the kingdom in At-Ta'if.

The kingdom has a role in relieving the pain of the Lebanese people by providing its financial and economic resources and offering material aid. More than one Lebanese official has described this Saudi act as unparalleled.

While receiving the Lebanese president today, the kingdom will not spare any efforts in helping this Arab country, as is its habit with all Arab brothers. This is its will and responsibility and our blood relationship dictates that we follow this path.

Just as the kingdom stood at Lebanon's side with all the power and influence it has on the international arena following the Israeli aggression and invasion, it will continue with these efforts until the withdrawal of the last Israeli soldier from Lebanese territory. Just as it has made efforts to ensure the return of stability and normal life to Lebanon, it will continue with these efforts until lasting stability is achieved.

PDRY

LAW RATIFYING AGREEMENT WITH OMAN ISSUED

GF151152 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers, today [word indistinct] a law ratifying the PDRY-Omani agreement of principles signed in Kuwait on 10 Muharram 1403 Hegira, corresponding to 27 October 1982.

The law [words indistinct] the officials concerned, each according to his sphere of competence, to implement the provisions of the agreement. The law comes into force from its date of issue and will be published in the official gazette.

YEMENI COORDINATION COUNCIL MEMBERS RETURN

GF121350 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Nov 82

[Text] Brother Dr (Mutlaq) 'Abdallah Hassan [name as received], member of the Central Committee and secretary of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, the PDRY members of the joint ministerial council's Secretariat and the Yemeni Coordination Council, have arrived in Aden from San'a', after the conclusion of the secretariat's second session, which was held in San'a' 9-11 November.

Upon his arrival in Aden, Brother (Mutlaq) 'Abdallah Hassan described the session as successful and said: The session (?discussed) several issues concerning joint coordination.

The Secretariat decided to hold its third session in Aden on 24 November in order to prepare the agenda of the substitute session [as heard] of the joint PDRY-YAR ministerial committee scheduled to be held in Aden on 28 November.

MUHYI AD-DIN INTERVIEWED BY AL-MUSTAQBAL

NC121237 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1115 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] Paris, 12 Nov (MENA) -- Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din has stressed that Egypt's Arabism and Arab affiliation is beyond any doubt to every Egyptian, because it is a matter of feeling from the point of view of history, religion, language and common interests. He said the Egyptian constitution is clear and definite on this.

Muhyi ad-Din asserted that Tabah is Egyptian land, that this issue cannot tolerate procrastination or stalling, and that there will be no hesitation, laxity or compromise on this issue.

In a statement to the Paris-based Arabic magazine AL-MUSTAQBAL, Muhyi ad-Din said Egypt rejects the imposition of conditions regarding the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel. He also announced Egypt's rejection of one idea that the Tabah issue is linked with the return of the Egyptian ambassador or with any other issue. He made it clear that the return of the Egyptian ambassador is an Egyptian decision and the timing of his return is up to the Egyptian Government.

Muhyi ad-Din welcomes the visit to Egypt by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. He affirmed that there are no Egyptian reservations about 'Arafat's visit to Egypt. Muhyi ad-Din pointed out that Egypt will not impose representatives on the Palestinians people. is left up to the Palestinians under all circumstances.

The following is the text of the statement Dr Muhyi ad-Din made to AL-MUSTAQBAL:

Asked about the Tabah problem, Muhyi ad-Din said: There is absolutely no hesitation in our stance. Tabah is Egyptian land and will remain Egyptian. The Tabah issue has become an urgent matter to Egyptian public opinion and the Egyptian Government. We have documents, facts, and the realities of the 1967 frontiers when the war broke out. All this confirms what we owned and where we stood at that time. We have legal evidence and legality. We will use this to regain our rights. In the new stage, we are determined and we will spare no efforts to attain our rights through reconciliation [tawfiq] or arbitration. I emphasize, however, that there will be no compromises, hesitation or laxity regarding territory. Tabah is Egyptian land, and it is an issue that tolerates no stalling or procrastination.

On Israel's stipulation that the Egyptian ambassador return and linking this to the Tabah issue, Muhyi ad-Din said that we do not accept any conditions being imposed on We have withdrawn [sahabna] the ambassador for consultations, as President Mubarak has stated. We will \return the ambassador when we deem the circumstances right for his return, but we do not link his return to the Tabah issue or to any other issue. Muhyi ad-Din added: When we decide the ambassador should return, he will return to his work. This is a purely Egyptian decision that will be made by the Egyptian Government and by no one else. As for the timing, this is also left to the government. When the government sees the time is opportune for his return, he will return. As for when he will return -- after 1 day, 1 week or 1 month -- I do not want to go into this labyrinth. Out position is specific: No imposition, no linkage, and no conditions for the ambassador's return. The return is an Egyptian decision.

Asked about his evaluation of Egyptian-Israeli relations, Muhyi ad-Din said that Egyptian-Israeli relations have, no doubt, been affected by the Israeli aggression against Lebanon. Since the first day of the aggression, Egypt defined its stand: it denounced and condemned the agression with a strong, loud and constructive voice. In international forums and through our bilateral relations with the European group, the Nonaligned Movement, and the African group, our relations with Israel have no doubt been affected. Then the Sabra and Shatila massacres occured. The withdrawal of the Egyptian ambassador for consultations embodies the lowest ebb in relations.

As for Israeli concentrations on the Egyptian front and the rumors about Israeli warnings to Egypt, Muhyi ad-Din pointed out that there had been no warnings and that we reject the rumors. The presence of an Israeli military force on the Egyptian border is permanent, that is, it is not a new concentration or a new stage aimed at notifying Egypt that (?the Israelis are here). The permanent presence is because Egypt is the big Arab country with 45 million people and with a large armed force. These are the Israeli leadership's calculations. This is the situation and not, as certain people alleged, that the Camp David agreements withdrew the Israeli forces to the north and that Israel withdrew its army from the Egyptian front. He said further that even during the Israeli operations [in Lebanon] Israel did not withdraw any of these large forces, The concentrations have remained the same; before Camp David, after Camp David, and during the operations in Lebanon. Therefore, there is no link between the [peace] treaty and the aggression.

In response to another question by the AL-MUSTAQBA correspondent, Muhyi ad-Din stressed that Egypt's Arabism and its affiliation is not doubted by any Egyptian. He asserted that the Egyptian Government's course is clear and specific: Egypt's Arabism is unquestionable.

Muhyi ad-Din added: Our hearts and minds are open to the whole Arab nation. During the Fes summit conference, the Egyptian-Arab relations were discussed. All the talks, contacts and stands that have been made during the Fes summit were conveyed to us. We do not want to define who said this and who said that, Bilateral relations were raised. This is not the way. [as received] There have been messages, meetings and give and take. There are also declared needs and other needs that may not have been declared, but there are moves. As for predicting how these contacts can change into a new stage with specific formulas, it is difficult to speak on this now, because it is possible that at any moment this current dialogue, exchange of messages and meetings, may take specific forms.

On his views on the return of Arab solidarity and Egypt's Arab relations, Muhyi ad-Din said: I do not want to go into many details. Let us just go back to the Fes summit resolutions. What do they say? They have endorsed the course of negotiations as well as security and peace for all countries of the area. This means that Israel exists in the area and the principle exists. Thus, one day, perhaps after 6 months, 1 or 2 years, we will reach this principle. I can see no principled or basic differences. The question then is a matter of details on the map and specific timing, but there are no differences in principle.

Asked about Egyptian-Libyan relations, Muhyi ad-Din reaffirmed that Egypt does not want to open fronts with any Arab (?country) and that Egypt is committed to this.

Replying to a question about Egypt's attitude toward the PLO, the prime minister emphasized that Egypt does not impose representatives on the Palestinian people. This matter is left to the Palestinian people under all circumstances. The whole world knows who the representatives of the Palestinian people are.

He pointed out that Egypt proposed the establishment of a provisional [Palestinian] government some time ago. Had such a government been established some time ago, it would now have acquired a status, legitimacy, permanency, and ability to negotiate. This is merely an opinion and a political view, but the crux of the issue in all circumstances remains that the legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people are those who have been speaking for the Palestinian people. There is no doubt about that.

The prime minister explained that Egypt's refusal to receive the Palestinian fighters upon their departure from Beirut was based on the need to link the departure of the Palestinians from Lebanon to a clear and specific political solution so as not to freeze the issue at that point. He said the Egyptian stand had a major role in President Reagan's initiative. Therefore, we aim to achieve a political framework and a clear and specific political solution that would unable the Palestinian people to attain their right to self-determination in a clear manner.

The prime minister affirmed that there are no Egyptian reservations about Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Egypt. He said 'Arafat will be an Arab in an Arab country, a brother among his brothers, and a leader of the Palestinian people. We welcome him as a leader visiting his own country. There are absolutely no sensitivities and we welcome him at any time he wishes.

In his interview with AL-MUSTAQBAL magazine, the prime minister called for the need to take advantage of the complete international sympathy with the cause of the Palestinian people and to employ this sympathy in the interest of the Palestinian people and their cause.

The prime minister also called on the PLO not to leave the question of mutual recognition in abeyance. He said: It is required that Yasir 'Arafat declare that he recognizes Israel in return for its recognition of the [Palestinians'] national rights. This makes room for dialogue.

He pointed out in this respect that in the event Israel refuses to recognize the Palestinians' rights, the Palestinian issue will win the whole world over to its side. The prime minister pointed out that Israel's repeated refusal does not mean that we should stop and freeze because, in the end, the whole world will face Israel.

The prime minister declared Egypt's welcome and blessing regarding the recent Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue.

Meanwhile, Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, in his interview, also praised the Egyptian-U.S. relations, empahsizing that they are relations of friendship, mutual respect and equality. He said that in all circumstances, the decision is an Egyptian one. He affirmed the United States' respect for and adoption of Egypt's opinion on various issues.

Regarding Egyptian-Soviet relations, the prime minister said: We were in need of some of their experts, some of whom came, and some of whom went after completing their task. Some of them will come during the coming period. Sometimes, statements and campaigns are made on certain Egyptian situations and decisions, but we adhere to the line defined by President Mubarak, namely, not to answer the campaigns. We are open to the whole world with all its currents on the basis of noninterference and mutual respect. These are the bases on which we chart our policy.

Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din then moved to discussing the domestic front. He asserted that the government uses the Emergency Law within the narrowest limits. He also affirmed that if it is felt that there is no need for this law, it will be abolished immediately. He said the security situation augurs well. He pointed out that tourism this year has increased by (?5) percent.

The prime minister said everybody in Egypt is equal under the law and no one is above the law or without answerability, whatever his position and affiliation.

The prime minister emphasized that prominent marks on the level of national action in Egypt existed during the past period, foremost of which is that democracy in Egypt is constantly progressing. The [presence of] opposition press, the hearing of other opinions, and the release of detainees are sufficient [proof of this]. The second thing [of importance] is planning and replanning, and there will be no improvisation from now on. The third is honesty, fighting corruption and the corruptors. There is justice and law that is applied to all. The fourth is that the rates of development are constantly progressing. Serious attempts are being made to achieve comprehensive development. Political security has been achieved, thank God. This achievement was accomplished in 1 year.

Concluding his interview, the prime minister affirmed his confidence and belief in the presence of the opposition. He said the people of Egypt are aware of the reality of the challenge facing them and that wise opposition is required to criticize and present solutions.

AL-AKHBAR COMMENTARY ON BREZHNEV'S DEATH

NC140755 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 14 Nov 82

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial entitled "What After Brezhnev?" AL-AKHBAR today points out that Brezhnev was the last of the Soviet leaders who lived through the era of the hammer and sickle and who used this as a badge for work and social status. These leaders represented an era that dreamed of international communism, but it did not materialize. In the last speech leader Brezhnev made on the anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution 7 November, 4 days before his death, he adopted that tone he used in every speech and threatened to deal a crushing strike at any aggression. However, he did not raise any interest among Soviet people with this threat. The same thing happened when Brezhnev's death was announced: The Soviet people continued to mind their own business and to conduct their ordinary affairs as if nothing had happened and as if Brezhnev meant nothing to them.

Referring to Brezhnev's threats to deter anyone who attempted or launched aggression, AL-AKHBAR says the Soviet people would listen to such talk and then look at the reality of the situation and see that the Soviet Union was living on loans from the European countries.

AL-AKHBAR says that what is important to us is that Brezhnev's death means nothing to Egypt in terms of its policy or any of its cultural or social conditions. Egypt has been liberated from that old monopolization. Egypt's link with the Soviet Union stems merely from openness and from good relations based on mutual respect, as with other countries. Certain people who like to make predictions and read the zodiac are busying themselves too much with the future of the Soviet Union after Brezhnev. Many of these people believe Brezhnev was the last of the giants to emerge from the communist revolution.

PROSECUTION RELEASES RELIGIOUS FUNDAMENTALISTS

NC141516 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1502 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Cairo, 14 Nov (MENA) — Public prosecutor counselor Raja' al-'Arabi has stated that the State [Security] Supreme Prosecution decided today to release 84 defendants who had been detained in the case of the extremist religious organizations.

Counselor al-'Arabi said the prosecution is continuing to study the status of some defendants involved in the case of these organizations to lay the groundwork for making a decision on them.

MENA has learned that the State [Security] Supreme Prosecution will make a decision within the next few days on the release of a new group of these defendants.

BRIEFS

MONGOLIAN ENVOY DEPARTS — Cairo, 14 Nov (MENA) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali tonight received Mongolian Ambassador Lubsanrinchin Dalhyn, who bade Ghali farewell on the termination of his accreditation as his country's ambassador in Cairo. During the meeting, they discussed the latest developments in the Middle East situation and aspects of Afro-Asian cooperation. [Text] [Cairo MENA in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Nov 82 NC]

GABON AMBASSADOR LEAVES — Cairo, Nov 14 (MENA) — The ambassador of Gabon here left here today for home after the expiry of his tour of duty as his country's ambassador to Egypt. State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali received the ambassador of Gabon yesterday and asked him to convey a message to the foreign minister of Gabon on the present African issues. [Text] [Cairo MENA in English 1050 GMT 14 Nov 82 NC]

SUDANESE MINISTER ARRIVES — Cairo, Nov 14 (MENA) — Sudanese Minister for Power and Mining Yusuf Sulayman arrived here this evening on a week-long visit to Egypt to attend the regular meetings of the Arab-African company for subterranean water. Discussions will cover the company achievements last year and the drawing up of next year's general plan and budget. [Text] [Cairo MENA in English 2020 GMT 14 Nov 82 NC]

PRESIDENT SAYS ARMY MUST PREPARE FOR 'LONG WAR'

JN151924 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Nov (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn has said that we cannot win the battle against Iran by high spirits and excellent psychological and intellectual preparedness alone. We must also have highly-trained combatants. He stressed the need to prepare the Iraqi Army for a long war through high-level training. He added: We must begin to draw the required lessons from the battles and use these lessons for enlightenment, education, conduct and the continuous training of the armed forces.

He indicated that it is important for the commanders to use the experiences and capabilities which they possess by adding new experiences to them and turning them into a method of daily practice in the armed forces in preparation for a long war so the best results can be achieved.

Addressing a group of Iraqi fighters here today and awarding them medals of valor in appreciation of their heroism and sacrifices in defending Iraq against the Iranian regime's aggression, President Saddam Husayn added that a long war requires additional army formations, particularly since Iraq's war has turned into a defensive one.

The president called for further strict military discipline in accordance with the sound first-rate training which guarantees a strong command. He also stressed the importance of good and continuous daily intellectual and psychological training and preparation in order to ensure victory in the coming battles.

The medals were awarded to 71 officers and 6 NCO's.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES ARMY PERSONNEL 15 NOV

JN152014 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Nov (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn met tonight with a group of IV Army Corps combatant officers and NCO's who are stationed in the area opposite the Maysan Governorate.

During this meeting, which is the fourth of its kind this week, the combatants furnished the president with precise, direct and detailed information about the nature and progress of the battles which have taken place in the IV Army Corps sector and about the level of the combatants' performance.

President Saddam Husayn stressed the great importance of high-level training in bolstering the combat capabilities, adding that training must continue under all circumstances, even at the battlefront, regardless of difficulties, so high combat standards enhancing victory against the Iranian aggression can be attained.

The meeting was attended by Staff Gen 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal and officers of the Armed Forces General Command.

PRESIDENT CONFIRMS IRANIAN ATTACKS REPELLED

JN161257 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1245 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Nov (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn has confirmed that two wide-scale offensives which began last night against the II and IV Army Corps sectors in the Mandali and Al-'Amarah areas had been completely defeated.

President Saddam Husayn explained that the Iraqi forces had wiped out the attacking Iranian forces and none of these forces had survived except those who had fled or been captured. He added that serviceable Iranian tanks and military hardware had been captured

This came in an address by President Saddam Husayn at noon today when he bestowed medals of valor on a group of fighters.

BAGHDAD DEMONSTRATIONS SUPPORT SADDAM HUSAYN

JN131156 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1115 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 13 Nov (INA) -- Some 4 million Iraqis, representing the inhabitants of Baghdad, have been holding demonstrations and popular marches since early this morning, renewing their allegiance and full support for President Saddam Husayn and their commitment to his leadership.

During these demonstrations and popular marches, which are still underway, the millions of Iraqis are cheering President Saddam Husayn, reiterating the support of all the glorious sons of Iraq for Saddam Husayn's victorious leadership. These demonstrations and popular marches are taking place in the wake of a proposal Iraqi President Saddam Husayn made at the Cabinet session last Monday for holding a referendum in Iraq and Iran under the supervision of an international committee from either the Nonaligned Movement or the Islamic Conference Organization to assess the legitimacy of the Iraqi and Iranian regimes.

The masses reiterated that they will continue to respond to the call of the revolution and party command to defend the beloved homeland against the invaders, the covetous, and those who have designs of expansion.

RAMADAN RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM JORDAN'S BADRAN

JN151236 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, today received Jordanian Ambassador in Baghdad Fathi 'Abd al-Karim at-Tawil. The ambassador conveyed a message from Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran dealing with the circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing and developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

During the meeting, Ramadan and the ambassador reviewed the existing fraternal relations between Iraq and Jordan and the means to promote them in the service of the Arab nation's objectives, and in consolidation of its confrontation of all the conspiratorial and hostile schemes which are aimed at harming it.

IRAN LAUNCHES MAYSAN, MANDALI OFFENSIVES

Communique No 901

JN121745 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Communique No 901 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 12 November 1982]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The glorious Iraqis and their heroic armed forces, who have proved to Arabs everywhere and to the world at large that they are qualified to carry the banner of honor in defense of their sovereignty, freedom and the dignity of the glorious Arab nation, and who have actually proved to be the righteous grandsons of those great grandfathers, will, with God's help, keep their foreheads lofty and their victories continuous over the expansionist invaders, the collaboraters of charlatan Khomeyni and his rancorous allies of Zionists, imperialists and those claiming to be Arabs.

Our righteous sons will teach them the hard lessons and wreck their sick dreams. The following is the outcome of armed forces' operations last night and today:

1. Following the grave losses the enemy units sustained as a result of their abortive offensive against our brave formations yesterday in the Maysan operational sector, and after the enemy's attacking formations were destroyed and the retreat of the remnants in a chaotic manner -- the remnants which were hunted down by our brave units -- and after seizing new combat forward positions yesterday in order to inflict further losses in life and equipment on the enemy invading forces, our units today continued their pressure on the enemy units in the same sector. They clashed with the enemy forces in a battle, in which all types of weapons were used, forcing the enemy forces to retreat after leaving behind the bodies of their dead and their destroyed equipment. Our formations managed to seize vantage positions thus tightening their noose on the military situation in the region.

The enemy's losses for today have so far amounted to 738 dead, a large number of wounded, and a number of tanks and various vehicles destroyed.

2. The eagles of our air force and helicopters continued all day today their daring and intensive air strikes on the enemy's positions and units in the Maysan operational sector, inflicting huge losses on the enemy's concentrations, armor and vehicles. All of our fighter planes and helicopters returned safely to base with God's care.

3. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite our positions in the central operational sector. Our forces pounded it, killing six and wounding others and destroying two infantry positions and killing their occupants.

4. The grudge bearing enemy today shelled Basra, Khanaqin and Mandali, wounding a number of civilians and damaging some houses.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 November 1982

Communique No 902

JN131719 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Communique No 902 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 13 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our heroic armed forces, which are waging the holiest battles as part of Saddam's glorious epic in defense of honor and dignity against the treacherous Khomeyniite aggression, and which have learned new lessons in sacrifice and allegiance to the people and nation, will, God willing, continue the pledge to their inspired leader Staff Field Marshal Saddam Husayn and rally around him along the road of justice, sovereignty and dignity. The following are the results of our armed forces' military operations last night and today:

1. Our forward units pounded enemy concentrations opposite our positions in the Maysan operational sector, inflicting losses in life and equipment on them, the known portion of which amounted to 157 killed; a number of others wounded; 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 vehicle carrying personnel, quantitites of various hardware destroyed; and 1 armored personnel carrier seized after being abandoned by the enemy forces which fled the battlefield in panic during the battles that have raged in the last 2 days.

2. Our daring helicopters today attacked enemy military targets in the Maysan operational sector, scoring direct hits and inflicting grave losses on enemy troop concentrations, before returning safely to base.

3. Our units in the central operational sector pounded an enemy concentration opposite their positions, killing seven and destroying one gun, four vehicles, one of which was carrying personnel, one infantry position, and one observation post.

4. Five were killed east of Basra.

5. The evil Khomeyniite clique today shelled Basra, Khanaqin, and Zurbatiyah with artillery, causing some damage.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 November 1982

Downing of Planes Denied

JN121835 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Nov (INA) -- Iraq has denied that four Iraqi fighter planes were downed yesterday or today.

An Iraqi military spokesman said in a statement this evening that all the Iraqi fighter planes and helicopters discharged their tasks against the Iranian forces' targets, positions and concentrations with utmost accuracy and efficiency, before returning safely to base, as indicated in military communique No 901 issued this evening by the Armed Forces General Command.

The spokesman ridiculed the lies by the Iranian regime in its military communique No 1119 claiming that four Iraqi planes were downed by its air defenses.

The Iraqi military spokesman dared the Iranian regime to present the evidence on the contents of its communique.

Communique No 903

JN141723 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Communique No 903 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The forces of Saddam's glorious Al-Qadisiyah continue their just war against the invaders -- henchmen of charlatan Khomeyni -- until they abandon their aggressive trend and expansionist ambitions against proud Iraq and the great Arab homeland. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Last night an enemy force tried to attack our brave units' positions in the Maysan sector. Our vigilant units confronted it, clashed with it using all weapons and managed to force it to retreat, leaving behind 374 killed and a large number of wounded.

Yesterday evening our units pounded enemy troops concentrations heavily opposite our position in the same sector, killing 93 and wounding many others.

2. Our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing 11 and destroying 1 vehicle, 8 infantry positions and 1 observation post.

3. Today our capable air force attacked the enemy positions and units in the Maysan sector, scoring direct, effective hits before returning safely to base.

4. Today the artillery of the vicious Khomeyniite clique shelled Basra, causing some damage.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 November 1982

Iranians Expelled From Positions

JN151704 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Our valiant armed forces in the IV Army Corps sector continued their fierce and honorable battles to expel the Iranian enemy from the area opposite the Maysan Governorate. During fierce battles, our brave fighters managed to expel the aggressors from the area assigned to them to purge. They also managed to take control of vital targets and heights overlooking the enemy supply lines.

A battlefield commander told an INA correspondent that his forces began purging the heights on Wednesday night, supported by artillery, armor, armored vehicles, fighter planes and helicopters. Our heroic fighters took control of the targets assigned to them. The enemy tried desperately to reinforce its units by throwing in large forces in an attempt to expel us from our new positions. However, our heroic fighters destroyed the enemy human waves.

On the offensive against one of our formations on Saturday night, he said: The enemy tried to get a foothold in some positions in order to protect its positions from our forces' fire. However, the heroic soldiers of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah managed to absorb the thrust of the enemy offensive and completely destroyed its forces, inflicting massive losses in men and equipment that were left behind in no-man's-land. He stressed that our heroic fighters, inspired by President Saddam Husayn's resoluteness and the people's faith, are determined to purge our land of the enemy which desecrated our pure land.

From one of the forward positions the INA correspondent followed up the activities of our armed forces while they were tightening their grip over some positions abandoned by the enemy under our intensive fire and while they were destroying the enemy supply lines. He added that our forces are tightening the noose on the enemy and are strongly controlling the situation.

Communique No 904

JN151724 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Communique No 904 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 15 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With a relentless will and high determination to sacrifice, the valiant sons of Iraq continue their valiant activities in the operational sectors against the forces of charlatan Khomeyni. The results of the activities carried out yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units pounded enemy concentrations opposite our positions in the Maysan sector, killing 97, wounding many others, capturing 1 Iranian and destroying 1 tank and quantities of various weapons.

2. An enemy concentration was sighted and pounded opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing 11, destroying 4 vehicles -- 2 of which were loaded with personnel and hardware -- and burning 1 hardware stockpile. One of our combat patrols killed one of the enemy personnel and captured another in the same sector.

3. Five were killed east of Basra.

4. Today the suspect Khomeyniite regime's artillery shelled Basra, Mandali and Khanaqin and the village of Zurbatiyah, causing some damage and losses.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 November 1982

New Offensive 'Foiled'

JN160842 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0806 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] A military spokesman has issued the following statement:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Verily from those who transgress we shall exact due retribution. [Koranic verse]

At 2130 yesterday, 15 November, the treacherous Iranian enemy launched a new treacherous offensive on our units in the region opposite Mandali in the central sector, in an attempt to repeat its desperate adventures to cross our international borders in the Mandali sector. Our heroic forces intercepted the enemy and clashed with its forces in violent battles, in which all types of weapons were used, and during which our valiant forces succeeded in wrecking and foiling the enemy's offensive, wiping out the attacking forces, capturing a number of enemy remnants with the first light of dawn who were trying to flee the battlefield and seizing serviceable weapons, including a number of tanks.

Thus, the enemy, in its abortive offensive, has added great losses in life and equipment to the bitter losses it sustained during previous battles in the same sector.

Our heroic armed forces will, with Almighty God's help, continue to inflict further losses on the attacking invaders and foil all their adventures and aggressive treacherous designs wherever they may be.

Victory comes only from God.

Attack on Maysan 'Crushed'

JN160955 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0955 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Nov (INA) -- This morning, Iraqi forces destroyed a wide-scale Iranian offensive on the IV Army Corps units in the region opposite the Maysan Governorate in the southern sector.

Further on Maysan Attack

JN161031 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1000 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] A military spokesman has issued the following statement:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. And we have put a bar in front of them and a bar behind them, and further, we have covered them up; so that they cannot see. [Koranic verse]

At 0310 today, 16 November, the suspect treacherous enemy launched a new wide-scale offensive on our units in the IV Army Corps sector in the Maysan sector, aiming at the same targets where it had earlier reaped complete failure. Our valiant units succeeded in completely crushing the new enemy offensive, seizing a number of tanks and carriers and capturing a number of enemy personnel.

The battle is still raging with all types of weapons being used. The righteous soldiers are recording the most splendid and remarkable epics of heroism in defense of Iraq and the honor of the Arab nation. This battle will be a new graveyard for the rancorous invaders.

Victory comes only from God.

Air Strikes in Iran Reported

JN161044 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Nov (INA) -- The Iraqi fighter planes and helicopters continue to attack the Iranian forces that tried to penetrate Iraq's international borders in the Mandali and Maysan regions this morning.

An Iraqi military spokesman has told INA that the Iraqi aircraft, in coordination with the ground forces, are now carrying out successful combat missions against the enemy's armor, various types of vehicles and fleeing remnants, inflicting very grave losses on them.

The spokesman pointed out that Iraqi aircraft attacked enemy targets deep inside enemy territory in the central and souther sectors, scoring direct and effective hits. He asserted that the enemy forces are gripped with panic as a result of the air strikes and that the Iraqi aircraft continue to destory the remaining enemy forces which recklessly repeated their adventures in the same two sectors.

Spokesman Denies Downing

JN161110 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1103 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Nov (INA) -- An Iraqi military spokesman has dismissed Iranian claims that two Iraqi planes were downed this morning.

In a statement to INA, the spokesman asserted that since dawn today, Iraqi aircraft have been carrying out successful missions to destroy the enemy's armor, vehicles and personnel in the Mandali and Maysan sectors. None of the Iraqi planes has been hit.

The spokesman was commenting on a report disseminated by the Iranian News Agency on the downing of two Iraqi planes.

AL-ASAD MEETS LEADERS DURING MOSCOW VISIT

Romanian, Cuban Leaders

JN151725 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received at his place of residence in Moscow at 1430 today, Moscow time, Dr Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Council of State and Ministers.

The meeting was attended by Carlo Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Mahmud al-Ayyubi, deputy chairman of the Central Command of the Progressive National Front. The talks dealt with bilateral relations and the situation in the Middle East.

At 0945 today, President al-Asad accepted an invitation from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu and visited at his place of residence in Moscow. The meeting was attended by the Romanian prime minister; the Romanian foreign minister; and 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs. The talks dealt with the situation in the Middle East.

PDRY Chairman

JN151955 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received at his place of residence in Moscow today PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. Present at the meeting were Mahmud al-Ayyubi, deputy chairman of the Progressive National Front Central Command and PDRY Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Aziz ad-Dali. The two sides discussed the general state of affairs in the Arab region.

Returns Home

JN160942 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Damascus, 16 Nov (SANA) -- President Hafiz al-Asad this morning returned home from Moscow, where he had participated in the funeral of the late Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev and offered the condolences of the Syrian Arab Republic to Yuriy Andropov, CPSU general secretary, and members of the Soviet leadership. Mahmud al-Ayyubi, deputy chairman of the Progressive National Front Central Command, returned with President al-Asad.

KHADDAM, DFLP'S NAYIF HAWATIMAH MEET IN DAMASCUS

JN141616 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] A statement issued by the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] says that talks were held today between 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Nayif Hawatimah, DFLP secretary general. These talks focused on the present situation in the Arab region in the wake of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. The talks also dealt with the results of the Arab seven-member committee's talks in Washington and Syrian-Palestinian relations.

BULGARIAN ASSEMBLY OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN141544 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1445 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Damascus, 14 Nov (SANA) -- Petur Vutov, chairman of the Interparliamentary Group in the Bulgarian National Assembly, arrived in Damascus today on a visit to Syria that will last several days.

He was received on arrival by Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee in the Syrian People's Assembly, a number of People's Assembly officials and the Bulgarian ambassador in Damascus.

MONTE CARLO RADIO ON 'RUMORS' ABOUT RIF'AT AL-ASAD

JN142134 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2045 GMT 14 Nov 82

[From the "Panorama" program]

[Text] In Damascus there is great displeasure at, and an unequivocal denial of, rumors disseminated by some foreign news media about a meeting between Syrian Defense Companies Commander Dr Rif'at al-Asad and Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon in Washington. Our correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris talks to us about this subject:

[Begin recording] There has been great interest in Damascus during the last 24 hours concerning the article published by the government newspaper TISHRIN, in which the writer hotly denies rumors that have recently been circulated about meetings between a prominent Syrian leader and Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon. Political observers' interest in this article came after attempts to harm the reputation of a prominent leading figure in Syria considered to be the backbone of the regime. These attempts concentrated on rumors circulated against Dr Rif'at al-Asad, Defense Companies commander, party leadership member and head of the national court. These rumors included a news report on all alleged meetings between Dr Rif'at al-Asad and Israeli Defense Minister Sharon and another report saying that the Defense Companies commander had bought a house in Washington for two of his sons. The first news report was officially denied and met with sacrcasm at the time. The second report is baseless, because Dr Rif'at al-Asad stayed in Washington for only a short time for medical treatment, after which he returned to Damascus in good health. All his sons are in Damascus receiving an education at Syrian universities.

One notes the strong tone used by the writer of the article, from which observers may find a clear, accurate indication that Syria will allow no attempt to harm it through a man who has greatly contributed to laying down the bases and pillars on which the country is founded. Undermining this man, as some desire, means undermining the principled stand adopted by the Arab nation and Syria in these difficult circumstances. [end recording]

PRIME MINISTER, REAGAN TO MEET IN JANUARY

TA160831 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 16 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin will meet with President Reagan in Washington at the beginning of 1983.

It was explained in political contacts held with the White House that President Reagan will be busy during December and can free himself for a meeting only after the Christmas holiday, in January.

YOSEF HARIF DETAILS LEBANON SECURITY PROPOSALS

TA121401 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 Nov 82 pp 14, 35

[Commentary by Yosef Harif: "Begin Carries With Him to Washington a Document Specifying the Security Arrangements Israel Is Suggesting to Lebanon"]

[Excerpt] What is the arrangement Israel seeks with Lebanon, without which Israel will not withdraw its forces and which the prime minister will obviously present during his talks in Washington? The document the prime minister is carrying with him states the following:

-- The security arrangements must be determined in the framework of a political agreement between Israel and Lebanon and, if it so desires, the United States may be a witness to the agreement and even sign it as a third party. The agreement will be called the "Israel-Lebanon Agreement." The security arrangements will be founded on the following principles:

-- The state of war between Israel and Lebanon will end.

-- The sides will not permit acts of hostility to be carried out against each other from their territory.

-- The sides will not permit foreign forces to deploy or operate in their territory, except for the forces which will be agreed upon (for example, the multinational force).

-- The sides will not permit the PLO, international terrorist organizations or terrorist organizations operating against the opposite side to deploy or operate in their territory.

-- Until a state of peace is established, Israel will be allowed to carry out surveillance flights over Lebanon.

-- There will be cooperation in joint security fields through joint committees.

Another chapter of the document referring to the 45-km security area states that the arrangements applying to this area must also ensure that artillery does not pose a threat to the Galilee settlements, and that surface-to-air missiles do not menace Israeli aircraft. It must be ensured that, "In any case, even in the wake of a change in the political-strategic situation, the outbreak of a new civil war or the intervention of foreign forces in Lebanon, terrorist organizations or gangs operating against Israel, as well as foreign forces unacceptable to Israel, should never be present in this area."

The Lebanese Army alone will be deployed in the security area.

Until a peace treaty is signed between Israel and Lebanon, the local forces will constitute the skeleton of the Lebanese Army, which will deploy in this area and which will merge with the Lebanese Army. The only elements that will be allowed to carry arms in this area will be the Lebanese Army and the Lebanese police. All other elements will be disarmed. Until a peace treaty is signed, Israel will maintain three early warning installations in this area.

Who will supervise this area?

Supervision will be entrusted to a joint Israeli-Lebanese committee. Israel will be allowed to oversee the security arrangements (which will also apply to Lebanon's airspace and territorial waters) in the air and on the seas.

However, Israel is not satisfied with all this. It insists on the establishment of civilian arrangements (namely, "normalization") whose principles are:

-- Borders open to the crossing of people and goods between Israel and Lebanon and, in any event, in the security area.

-- Committees to solidify normal relations (in fields such as trade, tourism, agriculture, customs, communications and trasnportation on land, air and sea).

-- An apparatus which would include representations [netziguyot] to implement a normalization in relations.

As in any other proposal for negotiations, it may be assumed that the document also includes clauses that would not constitute an unbridgeable obstacle if they are not attained.

Under what conditions would the IDF be ready to begin evacuating its forces?

-- The IDF will deploy along the current lines until the PLO is evacuated from Lebanon and until the prisoners, missing soldiers and bodies are returned.

-- The IDF will move from the current lines to the 45-to-50 km line once it has been ensured that the Syrians have evacuated the Lebanese mountains, and the multinational force has deployed to prevent the return of the Syrians to the Lebanese mountains and the return of the PLO to Lebanon.

Israel demands two agreements in order to begin moving:

-- First, an agreement through U.S. mediation on the evacuation and demilitarization of the foreign forces from Lebanon, except for those agreed upon. In this respect, Israel also wants a U.S. guarantee spelled out in a parallel memorandum of understanding which will determine the means of supervision and the consulting mechanism in the event the demilitarization agreement is violated.

-- Second, an agreement between Israel and Lebanon to be determined through direct negotiations (although Israel agrees to the U.S. participating in these negotiations).

Is there a chance for such an agreement to be achieved?

This is not up to Amin al-Jumayyil, who due to his practical tendencies and calculations is basing his policy on a pan-Arab orientation. Amin al-Jumayyil is not God in Lebanon. There are still elements in Lebanon with an Israeli orientation who have reservations about Amin's intentions.

A large measure of patience and tolerance is called for to achieve the objectives Israel has set for itself.

The United States can contribute a great deal since Amin al-Jumayyil has nobody else to rely upon. It has so far revealed understanding toward his difficulties in order to help him reconstruct Lebanon and stabilize his rule. However, that was not the sole consideration. The other -- and perhaps chief -- consideration was how to exploit the situation in Lebanon to gain the sympathy of the "Arab world." That is why the United States supported Lebanon's inflexible position in the negotiations with Israel. In this respect, the talks between Begin and Reagan are particularly significant. Such a complicated embroglio as the problem of Lebanon cannot be unraveled at the level of Ambassador Draper.

What will be achieved in the Begin-Reagan talks?

This is hard to assess in practical terms. However, if a confrontation is averted -- and this is something the President wants, contrary to some of his aides -- if "damages are reduced" in bilateral relations, if the suspicions that characterized mutual relations during the war in Lebanon are dispelled, if the language of concealed threats is put aside -- if only these are achieved, then the "stew" awaiting the prime minister may be edible.

SHARON, HADDAD DISCUSS SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS

TA140729 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and the commander of the Northern Command, Amir Drori, today visited Maj Sa'd Haddad, the militia commander, and discussed with him his incorporation into the security arrangements in southern Lebanon in the future. Our political correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports:

[Begin recording] [Tal] On more than one occasion in the past, Israel has declared that whatever the arrangements in Lebanon, its attitude toward Sa'd Haddad and his militia will not change. During Sharon's visit to Marj 'Uyun yesterday it was made clear that Haddad will play an important role in any arrangement that will evolve.

[Sharon -- apparently recorded earlier] We are certainly holding contacts, negotiations with the Lebanese authorities. There is no connection between the issue I have just discussed with Major Haddad and this other issue. This is one of the major security components. The efforts invested by Major Haddad are long and ongoing ones. He has been active on this front, in his struggle against terrorism, for years now. As I said, I came to examine how this activity is going on. I have found that it is going on as it should. All that we know is that Major Haddad will continue his activities for increased security in southern Lebanon alongside the IDF.

[Tal] Major Haddad told us: We view Israel's security as our security here, in the south. What is harmful for Israel is harmful for us.

[Haddad -- in English, apparently recorded earlier] We consider the security in the south and the security of Israel as one. It concerns both of us. What is harming us is harming Israel. So we discussed the measures we should be taking in purpose to straighten this.

[Tal] Major Haddad and his people are in fact already in control of the area south of the Al-'Awwali River. The security strip which was once narrow and reached the Litani River has been expanded now and the missions Haddad will be charged with will be extended accordingly: patrols, roadblocks and other day-to-day security activities. Israel is then making it clear: Haddad will be part of any arrangements reached in the area. [end recording]

SCHIFF REPORTS DE FACTO DIVISION OF LEBANON PLAN

TA151015 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Nov 82 p 1

[Report by Ze'ev Schiff and Yehuda Litani]

[Text] Senior defense officials think that if the Lebanese Government continues to turn down the security and normalization arrangements proposed by Israel, then Israel will have to withdraw unilaterally into its proposed security zone and carry out security arrangements supported mainly by the extended forces of Maj Sa'd Haddad, with maximum IDF aid.

Discussions on this were held in the defense establishment over the last few months. It was discovered that the implementation of such an action will be considered only after the political talks are exhausted or if they end in failure and misunderstanding.

If the Lebanese cause the failure of the talks or do not agree to Israel's main conditions, then, according to those senior figures, Israel will extend the enclaves ruled by the Haddad forces up to the Al-Awwali River, north of Sidon, while enabling the Haddad militias to formally control the area. According to the same plan, Haddad men will then get military backing, equipment and training from the IDF, as well as military aid when needed, for instance, if they encounter serious military problems. The installation of warning equipment in this area as well as air patrols and other measures were also discussed.

The senior defense figures noted that such an action will require an extended recruitment for Haddad's forces in the area he now controls (in actuality, Haddad's forces are now present up to the Al-Awwali River) from among the local residents, as well as their training and equipping. This plan was discussed with Major Haddad recently.

It should be noted that the implementation of such a plan in case of the failure of the talks means a de facto division of Lebanon, with the Syrians and the PLO controling the Al-Biqa' and Tripoli area, the Lebanese Government, aided by the Lebanese Army, controling the Beirut area, the central part and the Ash-Shuf mountains and Haddad, with Israel's aid, controlling the southern area.

Senior political sources in Jerusalem said yesterday that they know of such a plan, but that there is no chance that it will be carried out since there is an optimistic atmosphere regarding the success of the talks with Lebanon. The Lebanese Government knows, they added, that we can carry out such an option; therefore, they will ultimately have to give in to all of Israel's conditions on normalization and security arrangements.

COMMENTATOR CALLS FOR RECOGNIZING SYRIAN INTERESTS

TA121403 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 Nov 82 p 13

[Commentary by Poles: "The Lebanese Problem and Israel's Security"]

[Text] The HA'ARETZ correspondent on Arab affairs reported yesterday: "The Lebanese Government believes that tension in the Ash-Shuf area may be dispelled with the withdrawal of the IDF and the deployment of Lebanese Army in the area." One reads this report and wonders: Is that really the alternative?

At a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Tuesday, the chief of staff depicted the situation in the Ash-Shuf villages in quite a different light: "There is calm where the IDF is stationed, but this does not apply to places where it is not present."

This description all but leads to the conclusion that the IDF must be present in every Lebanese village where disturbances might erupt in the wake of conflicts between the sects. Indeed, Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan pointed out that since we are there, we are responsible for what happens in the field. However, in the same breath, he also implied the opposite "We are not the policemen there, but we are watching out for our own interests."

How are we going to emerge from these contradictions, and what are our interests in remaining in Lebanon far beyond the 45 km necessary for ensuring peace in the Galilee?

The official version has it that Israel is ready to leave Lebanon as soon as the Syrians and PLO, who remained behind after their stronghold in West Beirut was destroyed, leave and once the Lebanese Government signs an agreement with us on security arrangements. This version obviously implies that the existence of a Lebanese government ready to sign such an agreement, as well as to guarantee its implementation, is a prerequisite for our departure. The existence of a "central, stable and strong" Lebanese government is the Israeli interest to which the chief of staff referred.

One may agree with this opinion, although it would be better to ask: What are the chances that the Lebanese Government, which certainly wants to see the IDF leave Lebanon, will want or will be able to perform the mission Israel has assigned it? This government actually blames the IDF for the tension between Druze and Christians in the Ash-Shuf villages, and demands that it make way for the Lebanese Army. However, it is well known that in many instances the Lebanese Army was afraid to enter certain areas where order had to be restored, either because its commanders did not want to act against one of the rival camps or because they assessed -- and probably rightly so -- that the force at their disposal was not bite enough to act firmly and successfully against both camps.

Amin al-Jumayyil was almost unanimously elected Lebanese president. Shafiq al-Wazzan was appointed prime minister and even gained the confidence of the parliament and a series of emergency powers. However, "the Lebanese Forces" continue to exist separately and alongside the Lebanese Army. The latter is regarded as inferior in size and equipment to the Christian militias. Perhaps Al-Jumayyil does not want "the Lebanese Forces" to become the Lebanese Army, just as at the time David Ben-Gurion turned the Hagana into the IDF. Al-Jumayyil may also have bought the support of most Muslims (both Sunni and Shi'ite) for his government by promising not to do so. However, a government that cannot rely on a national army unquestionably subordinate to it, does not deserve to be called a strong government.

Amin al-Jumayyil's efforts to persuade the United States and other countries to enlarge the multinational force to 30,000 men may stem from this weakness. Al-Jumayyil explained his move by saying that he needs time to merge the various armed forces within the Lebanese Army and that in the interim a multinational force must be stationed in his country. However, he could easily form a big and strong national army within a short period of time if he succeeds in persuading the representatives of all factions and their militias to agree among themselves about an arrangement (based on an interfactional division) to man all the command posts and on the composition of the units. His trouble is that his task is no easier today than in the past, and no multinational force, however strong, will be able to make this happen.

Some will claim that these difficulties will disappear once the Syrian Army and the accompanying PLO forces leave Lebanon. In that case, Al-Jumayyil could carry out the intention of his murdered brother, and neither the Druze nor the Muslims would be able to foil the design to impose "the Lebanese Forces" on the Lebanese Army. Hence, if Syria refuses to evacuate its forces before the IDF, Israel will have to wait for an occasion to force Syria to withdraw by means of a devastating attack on its forces.

Somehow, this version makes sense. However, the chances that a political-international constellation would be created, to enable us to reach this goal, are dim even if we remain in the areas currently under our control in Lebanon throughout the winter. An Israeli policy betting on such chances might prove disappointing. In fact, we must reconcile ourselves to the fact that the strategic goal of pushing the Syrians out of Lebanon, along with breaking the PLO, pursued in Operation Peace for Galilee, has not been attained.

Therefore, the Lebanese Government established in the wake of the war will not be stronger than its predecessor. Amin al-Jumayyil may wink at Damascus just as Ilyas Sarkis did, and all signs indicate that U.S. diplomacy still adheres to its traditional and astonishingly simplistic position of seeing to strengthening the Lebanese Government, as if it were possible, from outside, to turn a bunch of factions and minorities into a nation of staunch loyal sons.

Hence, Lebanon will remain an artificial country. Americans are used to calling any population bound by borders separating it from its neighboring countries "a nation." Yet, they certainly intend for such a population to have a "national" awareness; that is, that it should see itself united through a homogeneous historical awareness and draw unanimous designs for its future. This does not apply to Lebanon and its population, part of which — the Maronite Christians -- aspires to rule over the other factions, while the Shi'ites and the Sunnis want to see Lebanon as part of the Arab world and the Druze have their own ideas.

There is no way out of this labyrinth. However, since Lebanon exists within the boundaries recognized for dozens of years by the world, one should accept this reality.

Therefore, the government in Beirut will be weak by definition, not because the Syrians want to influence it, but mainly because of the splits and rifts in the country.

Can the government of such a state ensure security for the Galilee? That is highly doubtful. We will be able to negotiate with it, although it is already clear that it is not enthusiastic about holding negotiations with us, and if discussions begin we will soon find out that it is more interested in pushing Major Haddad into a corner than in peace for the Galilee. A Lebanese government that does not have real military power to rely upon is not the kind of partner able to fulfill any "security arrangements," regardless of its promises.

As paradoxical as this may sound, we will only be able to obtain security arrangements from the enemy, namely, Syria. For over 8 years, the Damascus authorities have been honoring the security arrangements it undertook in the agreement on the separation of forces in 1974. If we propose, in exchange for our rule over the Golan Heights, that Israel would cease to object to Syrian influence over Lebanon, the Syrians will presumably undertake to curb the PLO.

Israel should not be opposed to the presence of Syrian forces in the areas where they are now. The IDF will then withdraw to 40 or 45 km north of the Rosh Haniqra-Metulla line, and will continue to see to Israel's interests in this area, particularly with the help of Haddad. The Lebanese areas between the Syrian and Israeli areas of influence, including the Beirut-Damascus highway, would remain neutral and the Lebanese government will do whatever it wants or can do there on the condition that it not adversely affect the interests of Syria on the one hand, and those of Israel on the other.

Is this a magic formula? Not necessarily. It is clear that as long as we treat Syria as an enemy, and Syria believes that is the Israeli attitude toward it, the road to a solution of the Lebanese problem remains blocked. However, why should it remain blocked forever? Would it not be better to try and reach an understanding with the Syrians precisely regarding Lebanon, which is not part of Eretz Yisrae'el and where there is no Jewish settlement?

One can argue that this is a "theoretical exercise." However, any initiated policy is engendered by theoretical homework. At first, one determines the desired goal and then the practical ways to implement it are examined. That is how Anwar as-Sadat proceeded when, at the beginning of 1976, he declared that he was ready to sign a peace treaty with Israel. That is how Menahem Begin and Moshe Dayan proceeded when together they decided to make a peace initiative toward Egypt. They looked for the diplomatic tools later, and they found Nicolae Ceausescu and Morocco's King Hassan II. A political and security reality emerged from this theoretical exercise.

EGYPTIAN STATESMEN SEND 'WARM' MESSAGES TO BEGIN

TA160526 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Egyptian statesmen have sent messages of condolences formulated in a very warm tone to Prime Minister Menahem Begin upon the death of his wife, 'Aliza. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that messages were sent by President Mubarak, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali. Jerusalem sees this gesture as important and interprets it as a desire to maintain normal relations with Israel.

U.S. REPORTEDLY ASKS EGYPT TO RETURN AMBASSADOR

TA160529 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The United States has asked Egypt to return Ambassador Sa'd Murtada to Israel before the visit President Mubarak is scheduled to pay to the United States within a few weeks and to enable the resumption of the autonomy talks, even if only symbolically. Both these steps are aimed at creating a good atmosphere, making it easier for the PLO to recognize Israel and join the peace process. This was learned by our correspondent from sources close to Jordan. These issues were discussed in Washington in the talks with the Egyptian foreign minister during deliberations on ways to coopt the PLO into the political negotiations. Cairo reported to Amman on these talks.

U.S. WITNESS ALLEGES CLUSTERBOMB USE IN CAMPS

TA151945 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Today the commission of inquiry into the Beirut massacre released for publication the testimony of a U.S. investigator who appeared before the commission at the end of last week. The investigator, Dr Franklin Pierce, headed a U.S. investigations group which stayed in Beirut in order to keep an eye on Israeli use of U.S. weapons during the war in Lebanon.

Our correspondent Rami Weiss reports that, according to Dr Pierce's testimony, one of the female members of the group visited the Sabra camp after the massacre and there she discovered three corpses that had been boobytrapped with clusterbombs made in the United States. In Dr Pierce's opinion, use of clusterbombs for the purpose of boobytrapping is most complicated and requires special technology and training. The witness did not dismiss the possibility that it was Israelis who had trained the Phalangists to use the bombs.

Today, Col Yoram Ya'ir appeared before the commission and his testimony was heard in camera.

FRANCE REJECTS DEMAND TO CLOSE PLO OFFICE

TA151419 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] France has refused to comply with Israel's demand to close the PLO office in Paris. Our Paris correspondent Gil'ad Sher reports that this is the first time that the Presidential Palace has answered -- even in the negative -- Israel's appeals on this matter. Previous demands were not even answered. To the latest demand, France has responded that in its view there is no need to reverse its decision concerning the opening of a PLO office in Paris.

BETTER RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW TO BE SOUGHT

TA160821 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 16 Nov 82 pp 1, 7

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi]

[Excerpt] Israel, using international elements, will make an attempt to clarify whether a change in the Soviet Union's approach to Israel can be brought about following Yuriy Andropov's election as Leonid Brezhnev's successor.

Wsthin the next few days, an assessment of the situation is to be made in Jerusalem regarding the leadership change in Moscow. The top Foreign Ministry echelons are now waiting to receive evaluations from the United States on the chances of an Israeli approach to Moscow.

A senior political figure in Jerusalem told our correspondent this morning that Israel was keeping a close watch on any indication of a change in the Soviet Union's attitude toward us. No few attempts have been made in the past to hold contacts with Kremlin rulers and statesmen from the East bloc, but without great success.

Last year, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko at the UN General Assembly. In the talk, which was held in a good atmosphere, they expressed contradicting positions regarding the affairs of the area and Soviet Jewry and there was no rapprochement.

This year attempts were made to hold another meeting between the pair, but the meeting did not come about.

PATRIARCHS THREATEN TO CLOSE HOLY SITES

NC151330 Paris AFP in English 1126 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Jerusalem, Nov 15 (AFP) -- The guardians of Jerusalem's Christian holy sites have threatened to close them indefinitely unless Israeli authorities agree to renew residency papers for Archbishop Karekin Kazanjian, deputy to the patriarch of the Armenian Orthodox Church here.

The decision came in a meeting today of the three Christian patriarchs who guard the city's holy sites, and will be applied "in a few days" if the Israeli Government does not back down, Armenian patriarch Yeghishe Derderian said.

Israeli authorities gave no reason for their refusal to renew the residency visa of Archbishop Kazanjian, and have remained deaf to appeals from church figures, the Armenian patriarch said.

The church's office here warned that a shut down of the holy sites would mean thousands of pilgrims and tourists would be denied access to such Biblical sites as the nativity chapel in Bethlehem and the Tomb of the Virgin at Gethsemane.

The office said it hoped the "prospect of a world scandal and of substantial losses in tourist revenues" would force Israeli authorities to change their minds.

PERES SEES VINDICATION OF JORDANIAN OPTION POLICY

TA120825 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 12 Nov 82 p 4 Weekend Supplement

[Report on interview with Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres by David Landau -- date, place not given]

[Excerpt] The chairman of the Labour Party feels that he and his policies have been fully vindicated. The "Jordanian option" is alive and well -- not only at the party headquarters in Tel Aviv and at the royal palace in Amman, but also in Nabulus and Hebron and Gaza, in the words and deeds of important local leaders.

Shim'on Peres regards his recent meeting, at his office in Rehov Hayarqon, with Nabulus intellectual Basil Kin'an and his friends as a significant precedent. There was also a meeting with another scion of a famous West Bank family, Wahid Ja'bari of Hebron.

"They came to the offices of the Israel Labour Party to talk politics, to talk of the Jordanian option," says Peres.

Basil Kin'an did not reveal at the time that he and his group intended to meet with King Husayn too, and with other key Jordanian figures.

Meanwhile, the King himself has spoken out twice (on British television) on his recognition of Israel, his desire to make peace, his readiness to contemplate formal relations with the Jewish state. Significantly, Husayn spoke of the West Bank-Gaza problem as a Jordanian-Palestinian, rather than all-Arab issue.

Significantly too, such front-rank Palestinian leaders as Gaza's Rashad ash-Shawwa and Bethlehem's Iliyas Frayj have voiced their approval and endorsement of Husayn's positions.

"All this is tremendous progress," says Peres. "We tend sometimes to be blind or blase..." Husayn's public positions today are much closer, he notes, than were those of President as-Sadat in the Knesset on November 20, 1977.

"Three years ago it looked hopeless. People laughed at our talk of the Jordanian option," he says. Now, Prime Minister Begin will no longer be able to mock it on the hustings as unrealistic. Labour, at any rate, is much better placed to rebuff the premier's mockery with solid, impressive facts of its own.

The chairman of the Labour Party is anxious that his talks with West Bank moderates -- and more are already planned, he says -- not be portrayed as third party contacts between himself and King Husayn. Frayj, Kin'an and the others "are not third parties; they are second parties. The situation today, put straightforwardly, is that Egypt, Jordan, West Bank Palestinians, and we in Labour are all ready to negotiate." If Labour were in power in Israel, he asserts, there would be a formal negotiations on that basis within the framework of Camp David.

As it is, with Labour in opposition, Peres draws a line between talks and neogtiations. For him to negotiate now would be "to step beyond the accepted norms." He agrees that from the electoral stand-point it would be most beneficial if Labour could actually submit to the voters the outline of a draft accord already negotiated with the Jordanians and the Palestinians, instead of presenting mere prospects, however hopeful and well-founded, of negotiating and concluding an accord after coming to power.

"But an opposition is not a government," says Peres wistfully. An opposition can hold talks on a party-to-party basis, as Labour does with the Egyptian ruling party, or on a person-to-person basis with individuals.

A direct meeting with King Husayn would fall within that second category and, he asserts, would certainly be legitimate. Leaders of oppositions all over the world meet with foreign heads of state and heads of government as a matter of course. He does not regard the 'veto' which Premier Begin imposed on his planned meeting with Husayn in London two years ago still valid today.

PERES, RABIN, EBAN ON LEBANON, TERRITORIES

TA121716 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1530 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] Bet Berl, 12 Nov (ITIM) -- "I doubt whether the majority of the public that voted for the Likud government voted for Greater Israel; the party that actually advocated that path only got three mandates," MK Abba Eban said today at a Labor Party information gathering in Bet Berl.

According to Eban, there is no politician or journalist in the world today who believes that Israel's security can be guaranteed only by controlling all of Eretz Yisra'el. He warned that it is impossible to maintain a proper country [Jewish state] with the current large Arab minority. Rather, we will become like the divided Lebanon and Cyprus. "One should present the Likud's plan as illogical, that it could lead to the destruction of the Jewish state," he said.

He also noted that the Camp David accords left all the options open for all the parties, and the final status of the territories will be determined by four elements: Israel, Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinians. There is no chance of Begin's conception being endorsed by the above quartet, he pointed out. Eban added that the Reagan plan should not be embraced, but neither should it be rejected. Instead, one should begin a dialogue.

Mr Yitzhaq Rabin said at the meeting that the Likud government's political-security conception has utterly failed, and this was seen in the definition of the security goals in Lebanon. What characterized the policy in Lebanon was the intention to achieve a peace treaty between us and Lebanon by using the IDF, which was to have nurtured political figures who would want to sign a peace treaty with us. The war in Lebanon and the ensuing developments up to this very day will, according to Rabin, prove that the desired political objectives were not attained and that the problem of how to guarantee that the objectives the Alignment originally supported at the outset of the Peace for Galilee war are actually reached still exist. "It is not clear that we would be able to secure the 40-km strip and ensure that the terrorists do not resume their activity against the Galilee settlement," he said, adding "the IDF's withdrawal should not be delayed just because the Likud wants to salvage certain political objectives from the ruins of its conception."

As for the Palestinian problem, in his opinion the partner for negotiations is Jordan, because a peace agreement and coexistence would only be possible if the interlocutor is Jordan.

In the brief debate that ensued, Tzvi (Kese) said that a dialogue with the PLO should not be banned after it had evinced a change. "We are right when we argue that 'Arafat is a murderer, but he sees himself as a national liberator. Kenyatta, too, killed Britons and laterevеryone agreed that he was fighting for Kenya's freedom. The moment the Palestinians recognize Israel, they will become freedom fighters and there is room to talk with them," he argued.

Finally, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said, in reaction to Tzvi (Kese's) remarks, that no one would accept the PLO's plan, that no Labor Party "dove" would accept the repartitioning of Jerusalem and having an Arab army stationed at the gates of Jerusalem, "which is why I am in favor of negotiations with Jordan, because they would guarantee an observance and maintenance of the Jewish character of Israel, together with its security."

KARMON ISSUES NEW ADMINISTRATION DIRECTIVES

TA160849 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Nov 82 p 1

[Report by Yehuda Litani]

[Text] Directives issued recently by the acting civilian administration head, Col Yig'al Karmon, to the district governors in the West Bank state that those people in the West Bank who are sympathetic to Jordan should continue to be neutralized "to the maximum" and brought to "great dependence on the civilian administration."

With regard to the pro-Jordanian group in the West Bank, the directives state that since Jordan ceased directing their affairs (after the Rabat conference) they have found themselves, by force majeur, more pro-PLO. This, the directives say, pertains to several figures who are moderate in their political behavior and completely dependent on Jordan. They will not take a step without Jordan's agreement, the directives state, and so they must still be neutralized to the maximum and brought to great dependence on the civilian administration.

The directives state that the method of dealing with the radical mayors who represent the rejectionist front will be a "continuation of the struggle... This is an endless struggle and it must be continued with great adherence." Members of this group, the directives state, in fact constitute the leading figures on the National Guidance Committee, a group which received its most severe blow between November 1981 and April 1982.

Another group discussed by the directives describes a "group that we (the civilian administration -- Y.L.) have begun to foster -- that includes heads of leagues (the village leagues -- Y.L.) and the moderate and wealthy mayors. They are not dependent on the outside, but rely on us. As stated, they are a branch of a movement." The directives state that the way to deal with this group will be through a "continuation of massive aid and support. General Staff officers are directed to visit the financially supported municipalities and leagues and report the results of the visit."

With regard to the civilian administration officials, which includes some 12,000 people, 400 of whom are senior officials and about 50 very senior officials, the directives state that, "The group of administration employees (local employees -- Y.L.) should be turned into the 'Civilian Administration Army', as in the case of our efforts for the village leagues. This project is for the General Staff officers." In this connection, the directives add that, "They must be reinforced for political objectives for the purpose of future political use. The civilian administration will mount the campaign with supervision by the state apparatus, which for many years was lacking in political orientation, indifferent and even harmful to the administration's efforts."

With regard to the group of administration officials, it is also stated that there will be a "more massive expulsion of those harmful to the establishment and maximum support for the more positive activists. The campaign of fostering will include granting some privileges: raising salaries, accelerated evaluations of authority and personal treatment." The directives state in connection with the issue of the administration officials: "It will be emphasized that the goal is not fostering for its own sake, but for the purpose of obtaining a political goal and the political use of this community."

It is stated further that the "General Staff officers will dismiss by means of pensioning off employees."

The directives also state that the district governors "will present weekly reports as to how the negative elements in the nationalist and pro-Jordanian groups have been dealt with."

The directives were forwarded to the West Bank district governors at the end of last month. Reserve Colonel Karmon is taking the place of Prof Menahem Milson, who resigned from his post during the war. Colonel Karmon was Milson's adviser on Arab affairs.

VILLAGE LEAGUES HOLD PEACE RALLY IN HEBRON

Talks Urged

TA121400 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1020 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] This morning, the participants in the mass rally of the village leagues in Judaea and Samaria in Hebron called for direct talks between Israel and the Palestinians for a just peace for the two peoples. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the head of the leagues in Judaea and Samaria said that his organizations have taken it upon themselves to unite the Palestinian nation in a peace movement, since the inhabitants of the territories are the only ones entitled to speak on behalf of the Palestinians. He urged the establishment of an organization to function, as he put it, distant from terrorism, the Palestinian organizations and Arab corruption.

POST Reports Speeches

TA141223 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 14 Nov 82 p 3

[News analysis by David Richardson]

[Text] Hebron -- Four years since the founding of the first village league in the West Bank, the now federated Palestinian leagues held their first public political rally in Friday under the slogan "Yes to peace". The rally proved that the leagues are a force to be reckoned with.

At least 2,000 supporters all men and many in kafiyas and traditional dress came from all over the West Bank to the Husayn school here to attend a rally which was organized by the newly-formed federation and the civil administration.

Soldiers patrolled the main street into the town which runs past the school and imposed a virtual curfew on that part of Hebron. Army and border police command cars held positions in the hilly suburbs of Hebron behind the school, a soldier patrolled the roof and armed members of the village leagues, with white identity tags in Arabic and Hebrew, acted as guards and ushers inside the school compound.

The hero of the day was Professor Menahem Milson, who though he resigned from his position of head of the civil administration six weeks ago, was the guest of honour at the rally. Speaker after speaker paid flowery tribute to Milson, who in the year he headed the administration devoted considerable effort to promoting the leagues as a moderate alternative to the PLO-oriented urban leadership of the West Bank.

And, to judge by the banners and speeches at Friday's rally, the leagues indeed promise to be moderate. As the crowd gathered, most sitting on low chairs in the courtyard where the speeches were relayed by a public address system from the school hall, a speaker intoned "We have chosen the way of peace and security for both peoples, peace for our children and peace in the eyes of the old men. We will determine our own future."

The speakers were constantly interrupted by rhythmic chants of "Na'am la salaam," ("Yes to peace") and speech after speech called for recognition of Israel, direct negotiations leading to peace and coexistence, and a rejection of terror. "We, for our part, declare that we firmly reject terror, recognize the State of Israel as our neighbour and demand mutual recognition between the Arab states and Israel," Mustafa Dudin, the founder of the first league and now chairman of the federation, told his supporters.

But the present Israel Government which has so actively fostered the leagues cannot count on Dudin and his federation to endorse or perhaps even acquiesce to its own policies of a continued Israeli presence and eventual sovereignty in the West Bank. "We demand a just peace, our legitimate rights as Palestinians, a nation like other nations," said Dudin whose address was the high point of the morning.

Dudin also stressed that he favoured a close association with Jordan -- "a strong, reliable regime that we know" -- and called on King Husayn to open direct negotiations with Israel. He acknowledged that he and the leagues he founded have a problem with the Jordanian Government: Last March Jordan issued a decree threatening the death penalty and the confiscation of property unless people withdrew from the leagues since this was "collaborating with Israel."

"The Jordanian nation and the Palestinian nation are one and their land is one," Dudin said to stormy applause. It was plain that the Jordanian threat was less effective than it first appeared.

Dudin defended the leagues, emphasizing that they have not sold a square inch of land to Israelis and have not betrayed one Palestinian to the authorities.

Other speakers mixed demands reflecting local interests with their calls for a general regional peace. Muhammad Nasir, an engineer who heads the Hebron District league, promised that the leagues would democratically elect representatives to negotiate with Israel.

He went on to make a list of demands from the civil administration which included further family reunions, the release of security prisoners who have rejected terror, a re-examination of the policy of destroying illegal structures, local taxation (this brought applause) and permission to construct a vehicle inspection facility (dynamometer) in the area (stormy applause).

He listed the aims of the leagues: to improve services as part of the principle of (sumud) (steadfastness), to prevent emigration, to improve relations with Israel, to prevent terrorism, to combat communism and to work for the establishment of peace and democracy.

Another theme which marked the rally was the bitter criticism of the Arab world and the "rejectionist front" although Yasir 'Arafat and the PLO were not specifically mentioned even once.

"Away with the merchants of blood, the traders in politics and in the Palestinian problem" said Turki Arku, the headmaster of the Dura High School, whose rhyming rhetoric and outspoken denigration of the Arab states won him enthusiastic applause.

Other speakers included a representative of the Hebron area bedouin, the mukhtar of the Al-'Arrub refugee camp and leaders of the village leagues of Janin and Ramallah.

Yunis Khantuli of Janin said that Israel, as the strongest force in the area, had to compromise, and he congratulated Milson for resigning following the massacre of Palestinians at Sabra and Shatila. He called on the civil administration to allow refugees from Lebanon to be resettled on the West Bank. Subhi Sharif, a freelance journalist, was particularly effusive in his praise of Milson, and when the professor at last approached the podium, the applause was deafening.

Milson told his audience that together they could bring about a dialogue, and they should resist the communists and imperialists and others who have sown strife and devisiveness in the area.

Friday's rally demonstrated clearly that the village leagues do have some substantial support among sections of the Palestinian population in the West Bank. The political moderation they expressed is remarkable in that in the 15 years of Israel's relations with the people of the West Bank, no organization has gone quite so far in meeting Israeli demands . It is too early to say whether this is political realism or naivete. No other organization has received anything like the encouragement from the civil administration and the army the leagues have in the past year.

What is clear is that the Likud government which is committed to final Israeli sovereignty in Judaea and Samaria and therefore fears real negotiations with Jordan cannot expect unalloyed joy from the federation of Palestinian leagues.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX RISES 8.4 PERCENT IN OCTOBER

TA151612 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Last month the Consumer Price Index rose by 8.4 percent. During the first 10 months of 1982, the Consumer Price Index rose by a total of 106 percent and, in the annual total, by more than 135 percent. Last month's rise reflects the increase in all groups of commodities, particularly housing, clothes, shoes, vegetables and fruit.

Food rose by 4 percent in October and vegetables and fruit by 13.5 percent. The price of fresh vegetables rose by more than 15 percent. The housing price index rose by more 10 percent, and clothes and shoes became more than 28 percent more expensive. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik points out that it is expected that the index will be lower in the next few months because of the attempts by the Finance Ministry to moderate the price increases.

Our correspondent Gid'on Zelinger reports that the Treasury has been disappointed by the rate of the index rise. Senior officials in the ministry expected the rate of price increases last month to be not more than 8 percent. The Finance Ministry spokesman contented himself with issuing the routine announcement according to which his ministry will continue to do everything needed and possible to curb the speed of price increases.

NON-AFRICAN ENVOYS EXCLUDED FROM OAU SESSION

NC151847 Paris AFP in English 1837 GMT 15 Nov 82

[By Geoffrey Varley]

[Text] Tripoli, Nov 15 (AFP) — Libyan authorities excluded non-African ambassadors from the opening session of the Organisation of African Unity ministerial conference here today in an unprecedented move.

Foreign journalists were also excluded from the inaugural session, which under OAU tradition is public.

Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi started off the session with a long speech that was not immediately available. Sources from within the conference said that as expected the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic — cause of the failure of the postponed OAU summit last August — was not present and that Chad's seat was vacant.

Dean of the diplomatic corps, Ambassador Carlos Lobo of Brazil, protested to Libyan protocol over the exclusion which occurred even though the envoys arrived with invitation cards from Libyan Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi.

The ambassadors were already inside the conference palace when they were asked to leave and waited grumbling on the pavement for their cars to return. Most said they would boycott an official banquet later today marking the beginning of the ministerial conference.

Among those turned out of the meeting were non-African Arab envoys and the French, British, East German, West German, Soviet and Chinese ambassadors.

At today's session, which is preparing for the 19th OAU heads of state summit from November 23-26, about 40 delegations were reportedly present. The number required for a quorum is 34.

Although Egypt, [words indistinct] continued their boycott, primarily because of their bad relations with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, Morocco and its backers in the Western Sahara dispute turned up.

AL-QADHDHAFI ADDRESSES OAU MEETING IN TRIPOLI

LD152028 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Tripoli, 15 Nov (JANA) — Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, this evening opened the 39th session of OAU foreign ministers in Tripoli.

In his opening address, the brother leader expressed the conviction that Francophone nations will realize the futility of participating in the annual meetings called for by France. He stressed that this runs against the independence and freedom of African states. Furthermore, such participation would be viewed more as a provocation and a humiliation of African states than as cooperation between France and the African states.

He emphasized that this important point should be raised at the 19th summit conference of heads of state and government of African countries because it has a bearing on the political and economic freedom of the African Continent. He said: Irrespective of our views on this point, we should insist that it be raised at the African summit.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi pointed out that there is another point that should be raised at the conference; namely, that an African state [Zaire] has reestablished political relations with the racist entity. He said: As Africans, we must back the struggle of our Arab brothers in Palestine so they can liberate their land. We must not recognize their enemy.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi stressed that the Jamahiriyah stands with the states confronting the racist regime in South Africa in order to liberate the south of the African Continent from the apartheid regime, just as Zimbabwe has been freed.

The leader of the revolution touched upon the question of economic cooperation between the states of the African Continent. He said that cooperation between the poor and the rich states of the continent should be effected through a fund or a bank or by setting up joint projects. He underlined that the Jamahiriyah has gone a long way, together with a number of African states, in establishing partnerships. It has set up a number of joint companies and banks covering agriculture, industry, metallurgy and fisheries.

The leader dealt with the social standards and endemic diseases that wipe out whole generations in some African states, and he called for an African health organization. He said the WHO cannot extend anything worthwhile to Africa unless Africa helps itself. He emphasized the need for establishing such an organization, and for the rich African states to bear the cost of setting it up and financing it.

He said that such an organization would seek preventive programs and cures to eradicate endemic diseases in Africa.

In the political sphere, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi called for the establishment of an African court of justice to which the countries of the continent will turn when a dispute occurs. This would cover the problems of the artificial borders laid down by colonialism which has caused fighting among the African brothers. He said this represents a political problem which threatens African unity. He explained that this African court is not in conflict with the International Court of Justice because it will specialize only in disputes between states on the continent.

With regard to the issue of African workers in Europe and America, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that African workers are being humilated in Britain and are performing lowly tasks, garbage collection and [word indistinct] in trains and railway tunnels. This humiliation of the African citizen is unacceptable and must be rebelled against in Britain and America, where black areas are considered to be infected.

He underlined the clear contradiction in the policy of the colonial states, which despise the black man, on the one hand, and claim friendship with the African states, on the other. He said this (?historic) contradiction has no justification. However, the colonialist states' belittlement of the African states serves as an attempt to restore colonialism to the African Continent. [passage as received]

The leader explained that despite our friendship with the Socialists in France and our contribution to the defeat of the dirty capitalist rightwing in France, we must not be languid about the issues of freedom and dignity in our continent.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi concluded his address by praising the African leaders who attended the great African conference held in Tripoli last [word indistinct] despite American threats against them.

He said the Libyan Arab people highly and eternally appreciate this stand which was a challenge to colonialism which seeks to destroy and dismember the Organization of African Unity.

He expressed his appreciation to the liaison committee set up by the great African conference for the efforts it exerted in overcoming the plot which almost caused a crack in the African Continent, and for its efforts to overcome the aggressive and dirty interference by America and its agents in Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Egypt, thus defeating the will of America's agents and, subsequently, America's will.

Further on Address

NC160946 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Excerpts] At 1700 yesterday, the brother leader of the revolution opened in the People's Hall in Tripoli the meetings of the 39th session of the OAU council of foreign ministers in preparation for the summit of African states presidents which will convene in Tripoli from 23-26 November.

The brother leader of the revolution delivered a speech at the opening session in which he said: It pleases me to greet you, brother foreign ministers of the OAU, and to attend with you the opening session of the meetings of the 39th session preparatory to the 19th African summit conference. I do not wish to open this conference with an official speech because in reality, there is no head of state or head of government in Libya. This is because the existing system in Libya is a Jamahiriyah system under which the government automatically vanished by the establishment of the people's authority. The authority in this country is the people, based on popular conferences and popular committees. This is the basic foundation of the Jamahiriyah system. The masses are directly administering their affairs, as the main foundation in this system is the people's committees and people's conference.

The leader said: I would like to point out to you that I am not a head of state or head of government, but I am leading forces that are working to consolidate and coordinate the plans of the masses who are working to promote the Jamahiriyah system throughout the world. I came to greet you and bless this meeting. However, it is appropriate here to outline my observations regarding the summit for which you are presently preparing.

The brother leader noted that the OAU Charter is like the charters of the Arab League and the United Nations. He said: Most of the Arab countries were not independent when the Arab League charter was drafted. Consequently, (some) member states do not accept this charter. The same applies to the OAU and the UN Charters. The most serious thing in the UN Charter is that four or five states have the right of veto and to maintain a permanent seat in the Security Council as though they were gods. We reject this. The preamble of the UN Charter confirms this.

He said: Through the contemptible will of a U.S. delegate at the Security Council, killing and destruction are allowed in Lebanon and Palestine, all efforts are undermined, and the will of 150 nations is being controlled because the U.S. has a bloody inclination. When the United Nations say no, the United States says yes.

The leader emphasized the need for the African Continent's unity to oppose the right of veto in the Security Council. He called on the African states to unify their stance in this respect. He said that if this is not achieved, the unity of Africa will be considered as deceptive and as mere formality. I would not accept to speak on behalf of divided people.

We would like to do something respectful and serious that will dictate respect for Africa upon the world. He noted that there is no need for a deceptive policy which only amounts to self-deception. He stressed that any resolution by the UN Security Council must be unanimously adopted stemming from the principle of equality between large and small nations.

The brother leader affirmed that Libya is primarily interested in the unity of the African Continent and is not seeking the chairmanship of the OAU. he said: I confirm to you that I am not eager to attain this. Some people like the lackey Numayri, the late As-Sadat, and their likes, may be eager to achieve this. I even declined the presidency in my country and have absolutely no interest in it [OAU chairmanship] unless something is done to consolidate this continent and its peoples, to end colonialism in it and to achieve equality and social justice for the African peoples. The chairmanship is sought by figureheads.

AL-'UBAYDI ADDRESSES OAU MEETING; GIVES DINNER

LD152230 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] [Words indistinct] officers of the 39th [OAU foreign ministers] session were elected as follows:

Chairman: The Jamahiriyah.
First vice chairman: The People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea.
Second vice chairman: One of the states of Central Africa.

Third vice chairman: Malawi. General rapporteur: One of the states of General Africa.

The secretary of the General People's Committee of the People's Bureau for External Affairs addressed the session. He said we in the Jamahiriyah are proud at holding this conference: We consider it a (?trust) in the people of the Jamahiriyah, and at the same time, it places on us a great responsibility. This responsibility was pointed out in the speech of the brother leader to the conference on the development of the continent, and on confronting all kinds of imperialist plots being hatched against the security and safety of the continent and the dignity of the African.

The conference decided that its sessions will be held daily from 1000 to 1300 and from 1600 to 1900. The conference will reconvene tomorrow morning to continue its work.

'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the General People's Committee of the People's Bureau for External Affairs, gave a dinner at the Oasis Hotel in Tripoli this evening in honor of the delegations taking part in the meeting of the 39th OAU ministerial council. The dinner was attended by a number of members of the General People's Committee, and by heads of the diplomatic corps accredited to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

ALGERIA

SAUDI KING TO PAY OFFICIAL VISIT 21 NOVEMBER

LD131224 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] The Presidency has issued the following statement:

At the invitation of President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and general secretary of the FLN, His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, monarch of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, will pay an official visit to Algeria starting on 21 November 1982.

IRANIAN ENVOY MEETS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

LD142158 Tehran IRNA in English 1925 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Algiers, No 14, IRNA -- African matters and subjects related to the Organisation of African Unity's upcoming session were discussed yesterday in a meeting between Foreign Ministry Undersecretaty Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam and Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi.

In that meeting, which was attended by the Iranian ambassador to Algeria and the Algerian Foreign Ministry deputy, Sheykh ol-Eslam expressed appreciation for Algeria's stand in backing Iran's proposal calling for the expulsion of the Zionist regime from the U.N. General Assembly.

Sheykh ol-Eslam also voiced the hope that the Islamic countries would show more concern over the U.S. and Zionist crimes as well as further plots.

In a separate meeting, Sheykh ol-Eslam met with the foreign affairs official of the Polisario front, Mohammad Salem Salek, Saturday night.

In that meeting, the Polisario official [word indistinct] the Islamic revolution of Iran and stressed that U.S. imperialism's chains in the region must be ruptured.

Relying on the power of faith, the Muslim people of Iran will thwart not only the Iraqi imposed war, but any other conspiracies, added Mr Salek. He said the present war had been imposed upon the Islamic Republic by the U.S. and the regional reactionaries, through Saddam in an attempt to defeat the Islamic revolution.

Sheykh ol-Eslam in return praised the rightful struggles of the Muslim people of Sahara against the aggressor and U.S.-inspired regime of [words indistinct], further reiterating the support of the Iranian nation and government for these struggles.

The Polisario official also emphasised that the Saharan people were determined to continue their fight against the puppet Moroccan regime until the liberation of all their lands and the achievement of independence.

Departs for UAE

LD142224 Tehran IRNA in English 2006 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Algiers, Nov 14 IRNA -- The political undersecretary of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam today submitted the verbal message of President Khamene'i to his Algerian counterpart Chadli Bendjedid.

In another development, Sheykh ol-Eslam in his second round of talks with Algerian officials, conferred with Algerian foreign minister, Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Saturday afternoon.

During the meeting in which the Iranian ambassador to Algeria was also present, important issues of the region and the African Continent were discussed.

The Iranian secretary also expresed gratitude for the Algerian role in supporting Iran's proposal in the United Nations regarding the expulsion of the Zionist regime from the UN General Assembly. He also expressed the hope that the Islamic and progressive countries of the region would further increase their activities in countering the conspiracies of the U.S. and Zionism.

The Iranian delegation left here this afternoon for the United Arab Emirates, seen off by some Algerian Foreign Ministry officials.

The Iranian delegation left Tehran on Nov 6th to visit five Arab countries. So far, it has visited Syria, Libya and Algeria. After visiting the United Arab Emirates, the delegation will then travel to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. The trips are aimed at explaining Iran's stands on regional and international issues.

BOTSWANA PRESIDENT MEETS WITH BENDJEDID 13 NOV

LD131350 Algiers APS in English 1114 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Algiers-Botswana political talks were carried on Saturday in Algiers by a tete between Presidents Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, FLN Party secretary general, and Quett Masire, Botswana president of the republic.

President Masire, who is paying an official visit in Algeria at the invitation of President Chadli Bendjedid, was back in Algiers this morning at the end of a 24 hour visit in Tlemcen (about 400 kms west of Algiers).

Concludes Visit

LD150030 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] President Quett Masire of the Republic of Botswana left Algiers today at the end of his visit to Algeria at the invitation of President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN. President Masire and his wife were seen off by President and Mrs Chadli Bendjedid, members of the Political Bureau, government and senior officials in the party and state and members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Algeria.

In a statement at the VIP lounge at Houari Boumediene Airport, President Masire said the results of his visit were very encouraging and all talks he had conducted were satisfactory and have helped to deepen the common understanding in the interest of the two countries and the African Continent. The president of the Republic of Botswana expressed his satisfaction with his visit to Algeria and his deep gratitude to the Algerian people and their government for the warm hospitality and reception.

With regard to the forthcoming OAU conference, President Masire said the heads of African states will be searching for just solutions to the current problems of the OAU.

It is to be recalled that President Chadli Bendjedid and President Quett Masire met privately this morning in a final session of political talks.

Following this visit, a press statement has been issued between Algeria and Botswana. It stated:

At the invitation of President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN Party secretary general, His Excellency Dr Quett Masire, president of the Republic of Botswana, paid a formal visit to Algeria 11-14 November 1982. Official talks were held between the two presidents in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. The discussion dealt with the question of bilateral relations. The two presidents noted the presence of great possibilities for the promotion of economic cooperation. They affirmed their joint desire to give this cooperation a weight and dimension at the level of the aspirations of their two peoples.

During their study of the development of the international situation in general, the two presidents analyzed in depth the situation prevailing in Africa and the Middle East. They expressed their concern over the danger of growing tensions arising from the continuous disregard for the peoples' rights to freedom, progress and peace.

Dr Quett Masire expressed his warmest thanks to President Chadli Bendjedid and to the Algerian people for the warm reception accorded to him and his accompanying delegation. President Quett Masire extended an invitation to President Chadli Bendjedid to visit the Republic of Botswana. This invitation has been gratefully accepted and its date will be fixed later.

LIBYA

JALLUD MEETS FIDEL CASTRO IN MOSCOW 15 NOV

NC170759 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud met in Moscow last night with Cuban President Fidel Castro.

Brother Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud attended the funeral of late Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev in Moscow yesterday morning.

Staff Major Jallud arrived in Moscow at noon the day before yesterday to convey condolences and to take part in President Brezhnev's funeral.

AL-QADHDHAFI INTERVIEWED ON ROLE IN MIDEAST

GF101504 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 9 Nov 82 p 13

[Interview granted by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to AL-WATAN's Belgrade correspondent Yasin ar-Rawashdah in Belgrade -- date not given]

[Text] [Question] Can you tell us briefly about the Libyan-Yugoslav talks held in Belgrade? How would you assess these talks?

[Answer] They are positive talks reflecting the level of relations between the two countries to the extent of strategic cooperation.

[Question] Let us, then, speak about the anxiety in the Arab region. The unity of Arab countries is one of the fundamental conditions necessary for resolving the Middle East crisis. What role can Libya play in this unity and in resolving this crisis?

[Answer] I agree that Arab unity is the key to resolving the Middle East crisis. For this reason, Libya is looking forward to playing a cohesive role aimed at uniting the Arab nation. Our determination to achieve Arab unity is certain either through the current political and social factors or by creating new factors. For the sake of achieving Arab unity, Libya is shouldering its responsibilities in this direction and will play a practical role in this regard. Anyway, in all circumstances, the presence of a Zionist state armed with all types of weapons of massive destruction, including nuclear weapons, represents a threat to the entire region and to international peace.

After the latest expansion at the expense of the Lebanese people, the destruction of cities and the killing of thousands of innocent people, it has become clear that the racist state should be eliminated. In this case, the Arab people will be in alliance with the Jewish people to crush the racist Zionist state. There should be a serious stance by all the countries of the world toward the United States in particular to prevent it from supporting the racist Zionist state, which threatens peace with weapons and armament.

The Jews are victims of Zionism and the Jews who died in Lebanon were in fact innocent victims. Zionism has led them to this hellfire. They are now being killed because of the heroic Resistance and the Nationalist Front in Lebanon. Naturally, they will die as long as they are being sent to these hopeless battles. Thus, the Jews are in need of being liberated from the fist of Zionism and from the racist Zionist state. If the racist Zionist state is eliminated, a democratic state for Palestinians and Jews can be established in the Middle East.

[Question] One of the factors affecting Arab unity and the situation in the Middle East is the Iranian-Iraqi war, which causes division among the Arabs. What is your opinion regarding the possibility of ending this war?

[Answer] In general, we and other countries have made efforts from the beginning with both Iran and Iraq, urging them not to resort to force in resolving the problems between them. After the eruption of the war, efforts to stop this war and return to negotiations continued. Neither of the two sides responded to these efforts and thus, the war reached the point where it will be impossible to return to the starting point. The results of war have made a return to the prewar point a very difficult matter. The problem has become so complicated that it will be very difficult to return to the starting point and resume mediation. Regrettably, the result of this war has become the most sensible thing, despite the bitter cost of it.

[Question] Libya, as an African state hosting the forthcoming African summit conference, must be concerned with the unity of the continent's countries. What are the steps Libya will carry out to ensure the success of the conference and achieve African unity?

[Answer] During this conference we want to concentrate on the economic issues, improve the social standard of the African citizen and solve the problems of African emigrants, African workers in Europe, Britain and the United States and problems of blacks in the United States, who are inhumanely treated and who live in bad conditions. The continent is responsible for extricating those African workers from these conditions through the OAU.

In addition, we will try to resolve the political problems among the African countries and to settle the border disputes. We will also urge the wealthy African countries to offer assistance to the poor countries of the continent. We, as Africans, will contribute to the support of the Nonaligned Movement, whose hopes are the same as Africa's.

[Question] What about the role of the Nonaligned Movement?

[Answer] The Nonaligned Movement should play a more effective role in order to accomplish a minimum limit of protection for the movement's members against imperialist threats, such as the U.S. threats in the Gulf of Sidra and other places, such as its support for fascism in El Salvador, racism in Africa, Zionist arrogance in the Middle East and the massacres that were perpetrated by Zionism with the use of U.S. arms and in which there were 50,000 victims, all of whom were children, women and old men of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

When I speak about nonalignment I am speaking about the neutral, nonaligned and active countries, such as Yugoslavia and Libya, which can play an active role in the movement to fill the space that really exists between the two camps. The nonaligned countries should form a deterrent -- even a military one -- so that the superpowers' retreat will not to be at their expense and to prevent the spillage of problems and wars into this shaky region, which is nonaligned and should remain nonbelligerent and a deterrent to prevent them from playing with fire in this region.

We believe that the international peace of the past several years was not accomplished by ethics or negotiations, but is due to the deterrent that presently exists among the superpowers.

[Question] The Jamahiriyah as a developing African and Arab state is influenced by the world situation and international situations certainly affect it. What is your opinion?

[Answer] Of course, it is not possible to isolate any society from reacting to and arguing with the other societies. Naturally it is not possible to isolate Libya from the world. But Libya has its own characteristics. It reached the jamahiriyah system and achieved a specific leap in resolving the problem of authority, the problem of democracy, the problem of resources, the economic problem and the problem of the state in general. It has become a jamahiriyah, and the first jamahiriyah in the world.

Libya has become the cornerstone in the era of masses, the era in which the rule of the masses who govern themselves directly and run themselves automatically will prevail. It is this society in which governments, parties, armies and rulers disappear to be replaced by the masses, whereby the people will perform the tasks. At that time, just peace will be achieved in the world, a permanent peace among peoples. The masses will replace the armies. The peoples have no aggressive ambitions against each other and the armed people will be in a defensive stance to deter aggression.

The armed people are never, ever defeated. International peace will be achieved for the first time in the history of humanity.

We see that the accomplishment of the jamihiriyah system in the world -- which Libya is preaching -- and the [implementation of the] third international theory, the popular committees and popular conferences, all these will solve the problems of the world.

Thus, Libya has its own characteristics which makes it bear many burdens that I wish the world could understand.

We offer to the world a holy message; the message of peace, final liberation and the liberation of man everywhere. So will the world understand us?

EMERGENCY AID DISPATCHED TO TUNISIA 5 NOV

LD051246 Tripoli JANA in English 0919 GMT 5 Nov 82

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 19, Nov 5, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- Major Khweildi Hamidi, assistant chief-of-staff of the Libyan Arab Armed Force, this morning supervised the dispatch of trucks carrying emergency aid offered by the Jamahiriyah people to the brotherly Tunisian people who suffered a national disaster as a result of the floods and torrential rain swept certain Tunisian regions. The Tunisian general commissioner in the Jamahiriyah attended the departure of the caravan together with the secretary of the General People's Committee for Social Security and the acting secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau.

This solidarity gesture is in line with the national stands which reflect the natural unity among the Arab nation as a whole and between Tunisia and the Jamahiriyah in particular.

This also materialize the objectives of the Great al-Fateh Revolution to achieve the overall Arab unity.

Mohamed Jenifane, the Tunisian commissioner in the Jamahiriyah, expressed the thanks and appreciation of President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia and the Tunisian people to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi leader of the Great Al-Fateh Revolution and the Libyan Arab people for the emergency aid to reduce the sufferings and miseries resulted from this natural disaster. This humanitarian stand, he added, reflects one aspect of the rapid response between both brotherly people, this feeling which he said he felt during direct contacts with the Libyan masses.

MAURITANIA

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR TRIPOLI OAU MEETING

AB151618 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Maj Ahmed Ould Minnih, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, left Nouakchott yesterday evening for Tripoli. The minister will participate in the deliberations of the OAU ministerial council charged with preparing the 19th summit of the organization scheduled for 23 November in the Libyan capital.

The minister was accompanied by His Excellency Taki Ould Sidi, our ambassador to Dakar, and His Excellency Said Ould Hamadi, our representative at the United Nations.

SUDAN

AT-TAYYIB, EGYPT'S AL-BAZ ARRIVE IN KHARTOUM

JN131507 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Khartoum, 13 Nov (SUNA) -- First Vice President Staff Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib returned to Khartoum from Cairo this afternoon following a 4-day visit to Egypt.

'Usamah al-Baz, director of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's office for political affairs, arrived with the first vice president on a brief visit to Sudan.

Maj Gen at-Tayyib said that, during his visit to Egypt, he had met with President Mubarak and discussed with him several issues of mutual interest to the two countries within the framework of integration, the situation in the Arab region and the scheduled session of the Higher Integration Council, which will take place in Khartoum in the first week of December.

In a statement to SUNA, 'Usamah al-Baz said that his visit falls within the framework of continued consultations between Sudan and Egypt. He noted that President Mubarak and Maj Gen at-Tayyib discussed and agreed on several procedures which give impetus to the integration process between the two countries.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY ENDORSES INTEGRATION CHARTER

JN102005 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1510 GMT 10 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 10 Nov (SUNA) -- During its third session today, the People's Assembly, chaired by Assembly Speaker 'Izz ad-Din as-Sayyid, unanimously endorsed the Sudanese-Egyptian integration charter resolution.

NUMAYRI APPOINTS MEMBERS TO NILE PARLIAMENT

JN141442 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Nov (SUNA) -- President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri today issued a republican decree appointing 30 of the 61 Sudanese members to the Nile Valley Parliament.

'THOUSANDS' OF SUDANESE VOLUNTEER TO GO TO IRAQ

JN131448 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Khartoum, 13 Nov (SUNA) -- Thousands of Sudanese volunteers have flocked to voluntary service centers for the honor of defending fraternal Iraq against the Iranian aggression.

A responsible source has stated that thousands of Sudanese citizens have so far applied for voluntary service, adding that volunteers are being registered under certain conditions, such as their ability to fight. He said that the period of service is 4 months and is renewable upon the volunteer's request. All volunteers will receive their training courses in Iraq, he concluded.

300 Selected

JN141437 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Nov (SUNA) -- About 2,000 volunteers reported to the voluntary service center in Khartoum today in order to join the Iraqi Popular Army; 300 were selected. This was stated by Col 'Uthman at-Tahir, head of the volunteer selection committee at the Khartoum voluntary center. He said that the committee would be expanded to enable it to select and to absorb the volunteers more quickly on a larger scale.

SEYCHELLES

'MAJOR CABINET RESHUFFLE' BY RENE REPORTED

LD151054 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0944 GMT 15 Nov 82

["Pool" item]

[Text] Victoria, November 15 (SAP) -- A major Cabinet reshuffle announced by President France Albert Rene and effective on November 15, has reduced the number of ministers in the Seychellois Government from eight to six. Two ministers, Mr. Philibert Loizeau of labour and social security 51, and Mr. Karl St. Ange of health 63, have offered to resign.

The minister of agriculture, Mr. Matthew Servina, had already offered his resignation at the congress of the ruling Seychelles People's Progressive Front last month as he was proceeding on overseas studies. His ministry is absorbed in a new national development portfolio. The only newcomer on the new Council of Ministers is 35 years old Joseph Belmont who takes on the portfolio of labour and social security.

The new list of ministries and their respective meinisters is as follows:

Ministry for Planning and External Relations, Dr. Maxime Ferrari.
Ministry for National Development, Mr Jacques Hodoul.
Ministry for Health, Mr. Esme Jumeau.
Ministry for Labour and Social Security, Mr. Joseph Belmont.
Ministry for Education and Information, Mr. James Michel.
Ministry for Youth and Defense, Mr. Ogilvy Berlouis.

President Rene also holds the portfolios for legal affairs, administration, transport and (?finance) and industries.

SOMALIA

RADIO HALGAN ON CLASHES WITH ARMY IN HARGEISA

EA152200 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Reports from Hargeisa say a tense political situation and confrontations between the public and the army -- which takes orders from the Barre regime -- prevail. The situation was triggered by the pillage of the people's livestock by Barre's soldiers.

Between 10 and 12 November, the reports add, there were massive confrontations between Hargeisa residents and the army when the army tried to steal money and other property from the people to use for its war effort. The challenges began in Hargeisa town with the demonstrating people chanting slogans condemning the dictatorial Barre regime. The people threw stones at vehicles and personnel of the robber-regime. On 10 November, the reports continue, fighting took place between the Barre soldiers and units of the Somali opposition forces (?along the 5 km) road linking Hargeisa and the airport. Due to disruptions and confrontations, the curfew in the town has been strengthened and now affects the entire northwest region. Public transport to and from Hargeisa town has been stopped. Further reports from Hargeisa say that this renewed confrontation and fighting has led to the Barre regime evicting people in the villages of (Lug Hayeh) and (Harerad). However, this has resulted in clashes between the Somali public and the oppressive forces of the Barre regime. The reports say that 5 civilians from the area and 3 civilians from the Republic of Djibouti were killed, while 10 civilians were injured.

CHAD

TRIPOLI 'EXPANSIONIST REGIME' CONDEMNED

AB131324 Paris AFP in French 1058 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Ndjamena, 13 Nov (AFP) -- The Chadian Government, which is headed by Hissein Habre, yesterday denounced "Libya's policy" toward Chad, it was learned from official sources in Ndjamena.

In a communique issued last night, the Chadian Government informed international and national circles of Libya's occupation and exploitation for 10 years now of 15,000 square km of national territory that contains vast resources of all kinds, particularly uranium, zinc, tungsten, tin, oil and other precious and rare minerals.

According to the communique, the government condemns "the current subversive and destabilizing activities the Tripoli expansionist regime is carrying out against Chad" and calls on the Chadian people to be "vigilant." The government, it stresses, will "assume the responsibilities that are incumbent on it."

After reaffirming its desire to preserve the independence, unity and integrity of Chad within the borders it inherited from the colonial period and its respect for relevant UN provisions on border questions, Ndjamena reiterates its "desire" for peaceful settlement of disputes between states.

The government, the communique further states, takes note of the "constant will of the patriotic forces (part of the new Chadian Army) and of our working masses in their efforts to consolidate peace, unity and the regained dignity of Chadians."

ZAIRE

MOBUTU SENDS CONDOLENCES TO ISRAEL'S BEGIN

AB150847 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] The joy of others is our joy and their sorrow is our sorrow. In any case, the Zairian people share the grief of the Israeli prime minister. On learning of the death of the Israeli prime minister's wife, the chairman of the party and president of the republic, Mobutu Sese Seko, sent a message of condolence to Mr Begin. [passage indistinct]

GOVERNMENT OPPONENT REPORTEDLY KIDNAPPED IN CONGO

AB141212 Paris AFP in French 1333 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Brussels, 13 Nov (AFP) -- The "Zairian Committee" in Brussels says it has learned from informed sources that Michel Eke, a former Zairian Army officer who took refuge in the Congo, was reportedly kidnapped last Wednesday in Brazzaville. Michel Eke, who was considered in Kinshasa as a Zairian opponent, has reportedly been taken by force to Kinshasa, according to officials of the committee, which consists of Belgians opposed to President Mobutu's regime. Suspected of having plotted against the regime, about 15 people close to Mr Eke were arrested in Kinshasa last July, the same Belgian sources point out. Among the group members now in jail are Paul Olangi; Jose Eke, the brother of Michel Eke; and Jules Lumumba, nephew of the former prime minister. The Belgian committee said that the latter is suffering from serious after-effects of the torture inflicted upon him by Zairian police. The kidnapping of Mr Eke is causing grave concern among members of the Belgian committee, who have asked the Belgian Government to approach Zairian authorities over the issue.

GHANA

PNDC RELEASES MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS

AB151838 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] The PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] has ordered the release of 34 former officials of the disbanded military intelligence from custody. A statement from the office of the PNDC asked them to report to the Ministry of Defense, where their redeployment procedures will be explained to them.

UPPER VOLTA

OUEDRAOGO REPORTEDLY CONFIRMED CPSP PRESIDENT

AB151054 Paris AFP in French 0939 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Ouagadougou, 14 Nov (AFP) -- Maj Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo is reported to have been confirmed as president of the Provisional People's Salvation Council (CPSP) and head of state of Upper Volta by the men, junior officers and officers who overthrew Col Saye Zerbo on 7 November. This was stated in Upper Volta by the independent newspaper L'OBSERVATEUR, published in Ouagadougou on Monday.

According to the paper, Major Ouedraogo was "unanimously" chosen. L'OBSERVATEUR also believes that consultations have begun for the setting up of a future government which "will be mostly civilian."

It is with curiosity that the Upper Voltan people are expecting the presentation of the "permanent structures" whose formation "in the shortest possible time" the CPSP announced earlier. The CPSP, in fact, will be dissolved when soldiers of all ranks and from all the (?regions) have made their views known on the orientation and structure of a state power, according to the "proclamation" of 7 November.

For several days now, the Upper Voltan national radio has not been carrying national news items, devoting the main part of its newscast to press agency reports on international events, it is noted in Ouagadougou.

CURFEW HOURS CHANGED TO 2100-0500 DAILY

AB152029 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] By a decree signed by the chairman of the Provisional People's Salvation Council, the hours of curfew have been modified as follows: As of today, Monday, 15 November 82, the hours of the curfew set by decree number 82-001 CPSP of 7 November are thus modified from 2100 to 0500 daily.

ANGOLA

DOS SANTOS INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY SPEECH

EA121910 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Address by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos on 11 November in Mbanza Congo, Saire Province, northern Angola, on the seventh independence anniversary -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Seven years have now passed and despite great difficulties and external political and diplomatic pressures, we have been faithful to the principles proclaimed on 11 November 1975 which guide the path of our sovereign state in its relations with other countries. We continue to make efforts to consolidate the state sector of our economy and to find answers to the great problems of education, health, life in rural areas, and public law and order in major and some other urban centers.

Building a people's democratic state to serve the fundamental interests of the people has not been an easy task. We are confronted with immense problems, most of which are aggravated by the military situation facing the country as a result of attacks by South Africa and its and lackeys. Notwithstanding this situation, there have been great achievements in political, social and economic fields. However, we need to achieve more. There is need to ensure the pace of our economic and social reconstruction. In certain sectors such as education, health, housing and agriculture, where the needs of the people grow with each passing day, we shall have to consider using revolutionary measures. These measures will mobilize the initiative and the efforts of the working masses so as to solve the most urgent problems. The state bodies alone, without the work of the party in mobilizing and organizing the initiative, will not be able to solve these problems on a medium-term basis.

During these 7 years we have learned that the exercise of power is also another way of continuously learning. During this process of learning one draws conclusions and makes readjustments. This is always and exclusively done with the supreme objective of solving fundamental problems of the people. In our country we have created structures capable of carrying out the just policy which we have always set for ourselves and which the party reaffirms daily.

We are living in difficult times; part of our national territory is occupied, and the defense of our territorial integrity demands both the mobilization of an important part of our work force and high expenditure of our financial and foreign exchange resources to increase our military defensive capability. Attacks by the South Africans and their lackeys have hit economic targets, the means of production and access routes, which are the determining factors in promoting development and the well-being of the people.

We calculate the material damage caused by the South African racists in our country at over $10 billion. In this undeclared but effective and enormous war that imperialism is waging against us, using its spearhead in the subcontinent -- South Africa -- we must naturally be more vigorous and more demanding in the implementation of guidelines, decisions and party and state laws. We must put blame on those who fail to implement the tasks set down for them.

It is necessary to make more demands on and give more responsibility to cadres and heads of intermediary structures and bodies so as to fulfill programs and work plans. The difficult economic situation currently facing our country does not result solely from the war of aggression. It also results from the grave international economic situation, low organizational and control standards, bad management and administration of certain sectors and enterprises and the inadequate fight against corruption, speculation and the squandering of public property.

The task of defending the people, the revolution and the fatherland against South African attacks demands from us great dedication, great efforts and a deep patriotic spirit.

This same dedication and patriotic spirit also demands that we fight subjective factors, inefficiency, lack of control, and corruption. We should fight against the squandering of national resources that are placed at the disposal of the public services and are in the hands of national bodies. Then we may progressively solve the grave economic problems confronting us today. It is undeniable that the mistakes that we have made in this field have their effects on the life of the people and the capacity to meet their basic requirements.

To overcome this situation in the manner needed means we must make more efforts to constantly increase our domestic production, and strengthen the mechanisms that can ensure the rational utilization of our material, financial and human resources so as to prevent what is happening now, namely, the superfluous spending on equipment which is not used. We must also avoid sending delegations abroad -- those delegations that do little or nothing while abroad to benefit the country.

We must strengthen our role and active participation in the detachments of the people's defense organization. In the future, we shall also have to do the same in the people's vigilance brigades so that we may constantly neutralize all the attempts by imperialism and its lackeys to disrupt the political and social order and the physical and moral stability of our people.

Dear comrades and compatriots, it is now exactly 7 years since, in order to safeguard our sovereignty threatened by a South African invasion, we felt compelled to ask for the help of the Cuban internationalist forces which readily fought on our side and helped us to repulse the aggressor armies across the borders. On this glorious date of our joint victory, I should like to hail all the Cuban internationalist fighters and express to them the appreciation and the gratitude of our party leadership for the militant solidarity and the immense sacrifices they made and continue to make to help the Angolan people defend their sovereignty, their territorial integrity and their people's democratic revolution. [applause]

I would also like to hail all the officers, sergeants and men of the army and the navy of our People's Armed Forces of National Liberation who are standing firm in positions and military units and are defending the victories already won by our people. They are also making the greatest sacrifices to defend our sovereignty, territorial integrity and revolution with arms in hand. [applause]

Our Namibian brothers are not yet independent, and the black people of South Africa still continue to suffer humiliation from the anachronistic regime of apartheid (?for their) freedom. Naturally, at this moment we once again hail the brave combatants of SWAPO and ANC. We express our unflinching support to them in their struggle for the recovery of their fundamental rights.

We once again vigorously reject attempts by the Western powers -- the imperialist powers, namely the U.S. administration -- to try to establish a link between the accession of Namibia to independence and the withdrawal from Angola of the Cuban internationalist forces which are in Angola at the sovereign wish of two independent states.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express our deep gratitude, on behalf of the people of this province as well as on behalf of the entire Angolan people, to all forces and countries of the world which have openly and clearly expressed their solidarity with our people by strongly condemning the systematic acts of aggression carried out by the racist South African regime against Angola, and which have also categorically rejected the so-called (?linkage) policy. This is the policy which tends to establish an artificial link between Namibia's ascension to independence and the withdrawal of the Cuban international forces from Angola.

Our gratitude also goes to all peoples, their parties, [words indistinct] who have tirelessly raised their voices at international forums and at private meetings with the representatives of the countries professing this policy in order to express their support for the Angolan people; to express their rebuttal, their rejection of the attempt to link the independence of Namibia to the internal questions of independent Angola -- efforts which are being carried out by these forces in order to neutralize delaying maneuvers aimed at retarding the Namibian independence.

To conclude, comrades and compatriots, I take this opportunity to reiterate on your behalf of our party, that the People's Republic of Angola, as a member of the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement, seeks at international level a policy of good relations with all countries of the world. In this context we have been developing a policy of good neighborliness and understanding with the countries bordering Angola in order, naturally, to create an atmosphere of stability along our borders, an atmosphere of peace which is very necessary in order to solve our basic problems of national reconstruction.

Obviously, as long as our security as a sovereign and independent state is either threatened or violated we shall not hesitate to ask for help from friendly countries under the terms of Article 51 of the UN Charter, because it is our right to defend our liberty, dignity and sovereignty. We want peace. We do not want war, but we cannot stop fighting to defend our liberty, the independence we obtained through enormous sacrifices by our people. [applause]

FURTHER ON RELEASE OF SOVIET, U.S. PRISONERS

AB151402 Paris AFP in English 1338 GMT 15 Nov 82

[By Denis Hiault]

[Text] Rundu, Namibia, Nov 15 (AFP) -- Two Soviet airmen held for two years by the Angolan anti-government UNITA guerrilla movement were released in southern Angola today in the first phase of an exchange of prisoners also involving South Africa and the Angolan authorities.

The two airmen, pilot Kolia Mollayev, 40, and mechanic Ivan Chernekzki, 48, whose transport plane was shot down over southern Angola by UNITA (Union for the Total Independence of Angola) in November 1980, were to be taken by Red Cross representatives to the South African base of Mariental in Namibia.

There they were to join fellow Soviet, Sergeant Major Nikolai Pestretsov, together with 50 Angolan troops and 16 Cubans captured by the South Africans during Pretoria's Operation Protea invasion of sounthern Angola in September 1981.

They were all being flown to the Zambia capital of Lusaka to be exchanged for three Americans held by the Angolan Government.

Two of them, Grey Acker, 28, of Sacramento, California, and Gustavo Grillo, 36, of New Jersey, were jailed for 16 and 30 years respectively in 1976 for fighting as mercenaries with another anti-government group, Holden Roberto's National Front for the Liberation of Angola.

The third American, Geoffrey Tyler from Florida, was captured after his light plane was forced down by mechanical trouble in government-held territory.

Today's handing-over ceremony to Red Cross representatives took place in the middle of the Angolan bush some 150 km (95 miles) north of the border with Namibia and 100 km (65 miles) west of the Zambian frontier.

UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi, whose movement is generally believed to be actively supported by South Africa, told press that the United States had been trying unsuccessfully for a year to persuade the Angolan Government to free the three Americans.

Mr Savimbi also said the archbishop of Lubango, Alexandre do Nascimento, who was captured by UNITA forces last month, would be free today and would fly to Rome via Johannesburg. The UNITA leader said that the seizure of the archbishop, who was on a pastoral tour of southern Angola, was a "mistake", the South African Press Agency reported.

Meanwhile in Johannesburg, THE STAR newspaper reported that seven British mercenaries might also be involved in the swap of prisoners. The seven, including a South African of mixed race, Cecil Fortuin, who had been sent by his parents to England to escape apartheid, had been captured seven years ago in Angola during the civil war prior to independence from Portugal.

The British Government has been pressing for the mercenaries' release for some time.

The newspaper also revealed that the bodies of the three South African soldiers were flown to Lusaka as part of the unprecedented exchange of prisoners in southern Africa.

UNITA ADMITS DESTROYING BRIDGES ON GIRAUL RIVER

LD152120 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1800 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] The Angolan opposition movement UNITA announced in Liston today that it was involved in the sabotage operation on 10 November when two bridges were destroyed on the Giraul River in southern Angola.

It will be recalled that the Angolan Government blamed the South African Navy for the partial destruction of the two bridges in Namibe Province, formerly known as Mocamedes.

UNITA says in its communique that the action in question was part of its present campaign against the MPLA to protest the presence of Cuban troops in Angola.

DEFENSE MINISTER, DELEGATION VISIT CUBA

For Havana media coverage of the visit to Cuba of Defense Minister Col Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, including his arrival on 10 November and talks on the same day with his Cuban counterpart, Gen Raul Castro, see the 12 November Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

UNITA KIDNAPS BRAZILIAN EXPERTS IN ANGOLA

AB151202 Paris AFP in French 1103 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Luanda, 15 Nov (AFP) -- Two Brazilian technical assistance experts were kidnapped on 5 November in the town of Calulo (220 km southeast of Luanda) by UNITA forces, it was learned in Luanda from well-informed sources.

The two men, an engineer and a topographer, were working on a farm nationalized by the Angolan state called the "Fazan da Longa" when they were kidnapped by the UNITA members.

This Angolan opposition movement headed by Jonas Savimbi, observers indicate, has recently kidnapped many foreign nationals working with international bodies as well as members of the clergy in Angola.

SAVIMBI TO KEEP FIGHTING IF CUBANS REMAIN

AB151745 Paris AFP in English 1732 GMT 15 Nov 82

[By Denis Hiault]

[Text] Cutada do Mucuso, Angola, Nov. 15 (AFP) -- Jonas Savimbi, leader of the UNITA guerrilla movement based in southern Angola, today warned that the war against the Luanda government will continue if Cuban troops remain in Angola.

Mr Savimbi, at a press conference marking the release of two Soviet prisoners held for two years by his South African-backed movement, warned that the restroration of peace in Namibia and in Angola depended on the withdrawal of the estimated 15,000-20,000 Cuban troops.

"I do not want anything else than to get the Cubans out," the 48-year-old guerrilla leader said, dressed in military fatigues, a green beret, and with a pistol and dagger on his belt.

Speaking at a UNITA base in the heart of southern Cuando-Cubango Province, Dr Savimbi said he wholeheartedly approved the recent United States diplomatic offensive seeking to link a Cuban withdrawal to a settlement on Namibian independence from South Africa.

"I do not have any reason not to believe the American sincerity," he said, adding that he felt the same about South Africa's commitment to withdraw its troops from Namibia once the Cubans leave Angola.

Dr. Savimbi said that the American plan now being outlined to the African frontline states by U.S. Vice President George Bush also contains a second element providing for the reconciliation of UNITA with the MPLA government in Luanda.

The UNITA leader said that the "weakened, rotten" government would have no alternative other than to seize UNITA's outstretched hand, after the departure of the Cubans, as the Angolan Army would then have less than the 14,000 soldiers and 21,000 guerrillas claimed by UNITA.

Dr. Savimbi stressed the necessity of finding a peaceful solution with the MPLA which would exclude "foreign intervention."

"Nobody, including myself, would like to see Angola ruled by South Africa which is busy in Namibia," he said, adding that he opposed French or Portuguese troops being sent to replace the Cubans in Angola. "We would be re-colonized," he said, if foreign forces arrived in Angola.

While he was prepared to negotiate a settlement with the MPLA, Dr. Savimbi said he was determined to "intensify the struggle" if the negotiations on a Cuban withdrawal failed.

Dr. Savimbi vigorously denied again that UNITA received weapons and equipment from South Africa.

"UNITA fights against Cubans and Russians ... South Africa from time to time fights against SWAPO (the Namibian nationalist movement). They are two distinct wars," he said.

But the UNITA leader recognised that he had occasionally met South Africa Prime Minister Pieter Botha, adding that he approved Pretoria's planned constitutional changes which would create separate chambers in Parliament for whites, coloureds (mixed race) and Indians.

LESOTHO

LIBERATION ARMY CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR ATTACKS

AB121550 Paris AFP in English 1419 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 12 (AFP) -- The anti-government Lesotho Liberation Army last night claimed responsibility for a series of attacks which have killed five people since August, including a minister of this tiny mountainous kingdom within South Africa.

The killing last August of Public Works Minister Jobo Rampeta was followed by a number of sabotage incidents, including the cutting of telephone lines. Earlier this month a government vehicle blew up a mine, killing the four occupants, and yesterday the official car of Rural Development Minister Lekhoona Jonathan also struck a mine.

Mr Jonathan, nephew of Prime Minister Chief Leabua Jonathan, escaped unhurt, but his bodyguard chauffeur were said to be in a critical condition.

ZAMBIA

BRIEFS

CHOLERA OUTBREAK REPORTED -- Cholera has broken out in (Mokure), with two people being admitted at (Ronald Rose) mine hospital and (Kawchanga) hospital. The officer in charge at (Kawchanga), Dr (Abdur Khalife), said the hospital has so far confirmed that 2 of the 12 patients admitted had cholera, and another 2 were still undergoing tests. [Excerpt] [Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 9 Nov 82 MB]